

The Nation.

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The Week.

THE long agony in the Treasury is at last over, and Mr. Bristow, of Kentucky, has been nominated for the Secretaryship in the room of Mr. Richardson, who goes to the Court of Claims. Mr. Bristow is a lawyer by profession, who served with distinction, and was wounded in the Union army during the war. He was Solicitor-General for a short period in 1870, and afterwards counsel for the Southern Pacific Railroad, which position, however, he resigned during the past year. He has the reputation of being able, sensible, and a good lawyer, and has had extensive experience of men and affairs, though not of finance properly so called. A man specially connected with trade and commerce, and therefore practically acquainted with the workings of exchange, would perhaps on general grounds have been preferable; but it has to be remembered that almost every such man has at the present moment, or is supposed to have, which is nearly as bad, some private interest to serve by the management of the Treasury. He has, or is thought to have, an axe to grind by the exercise or non-exercise of some one of the multifarious powers with which, to our sorrow, the Treasury is armed—the sale of gold, or the purchase of bonds, or the use of “the reserve.” Therefore, it is probably the wisest thing the President can do to put into the place a well-educated, experienced lawyer, unconnected with Wall Street or State Street. There is every chance that such a man will make a good Secretary; coming after two such men as Boutwell and Richardson, indeed, he will not have much difficulty in distinguishing himself. He cannot go far astray if he believes in human experience, and does not rely, like the Groton statesman, for guidance on the queer fancies of his own brain. The transfer to the judicial bench of a person found guilty of the gross negligence and incapacity which Mr. Richardson has displayed in the Treasury, needs no comment. It is one other illustration of what General Grant means by the purification of the civil service.

Mr. Banfield as well as Mr. Richardson has resigned, as in duty bound, and the Assistant-Secretary, Mr. F. A. Sawyer, one of the original promoters of the law under which Sanborn acted, is obliged to leave as a condition of Mr. Bristow's acceptance. We have good reason for believing that if any of the three accused would make a clean breast of it, it would be found that while Mr. Richardson's part in the affair has been honest, as far as any participation in the proceeds of Sanborn's operations is concerned, it is preposterous to suppose that he has been ignorant of what was going on. He winked at it under compulsion created by his having employed Sanborn to “work” for Mr. Boutwell's election to the Senate, so as to create the vacancy in the Treasury which he was, by the terms of his bargain with that statesman, to fill, and thus acquire the “prestige” which was to carry him into that “banking-house” of which such frequent mention has been made in the late discussion. Sanborn's indiscretions and the panic have ruined the whole scheme, and made the Court of Claims Mr. Richardson's haven after all.

The principle of Irremovability Under Fire, which the President was supposed to have introduced into the Civil-Service Rules in Mr. Richardson's case, has received a severe blow from his course towards Mr. Cluss, the Engineer of the Board of Public Works at Washington. Mr. Cluss testified, among other things, that Mr. Shepherd, the “Boss” of the District, was in the habit of giving whatever orders he pleased personally, at the corner of the street, or wherever an idea happened to strike him or the opportunity served, and then having his action recorded in the minutes as the

result of a meeting of the Board—the clerk making the entries under his direction. This enraged the persons under accusation so much that they at once, as was inferred, accused Mr. Cluss of perjury, and coolly asked the President to remove him; and the President promptly complied with their request without hearing Mr. Cluss, though the most important part of the testimony was fully confirmed a day or two later. The removal of an officer pending an investigation into alleged frauds at the request of the accused, on whom his evidence bears hardly, is an act probably without precedent in the history of our politics, and throws some additional and curious light on the tenacity with which Mr. Richardson was retained.

The most notable performance in Congress has been the repeal of the act authorizing the Sanborn contracts, which was effected in the House without opposition on Wednesday week. The same day, a committee was appointed to investigate the Arkansas scandal. On Thursday the House defeated narrowly (117 to 112) the Currency Bill reported by its own Banking and Currency Committee, and decisively (164 to 70) the Senate bill. A Conference Committee has followed, but the prospects of agreement seem not flattering. On Monday the House passed, by a close vote, a bill providing for the gradual reduction of the army, and one amending the tariff, with the sole view, as Mr. Dawes explained, of correcting certain original errors and detected abuses. The Senate has passed the Deficiency Appropriation Bill, and amused itself with the proposition to erect a Territory out of the Pembina district. Since the example of Wyoming, it appears probable that an effort will be made to try the experiment of woman suffrage in every new Territory. Accordingly, Mr. Sargent of California wished it to be a part of the constitution of Pembina that the right to vote and hold office should not be restricted on account of race, color, or sex, and he got eighteen other senators (all Republican) to agree with him, including such extremes as Senators Anthony and Morton and Stewart. But the majority was against him, and against the Territorial enactment itself.

The Senate last week, by a vote of 26 to 18, concurred in the House resolution “requesting the President to extend a respectful and cordial invitation to the governments of other nations to be represented and take part in the International Exhibition to be held in Philadelphia, under the auspices of the United States Government, in the year 1876.” To this was added in the Senate a proviso that the United States “should not be liable directly or indirectly for any expense attending such exhibition, or by reason of the same.” In this proviso the House concurred, but Mr. Randall and other members of the Pennsylvania delegation declared, before the vote was taken, that this would not prevent their advocating and voting for an appropriation of money hereafter if it should be found necessary. It is now at last decided, however, that the exhibition is to be international, and that the President is to “invite” foreign nations, and the managers are going to work in good earnest and adapting their plans to the sum they have in hand or can fairly count on. If this policy be rigidly and energetically pursued, we have no doubt the country will back them up handsomely yet with contributions. But all signs of hankering after the Treasury must be suppressed.

Three of the county commissioners of Barnwell, South Carolina, have been convicted of stealing the public money and sent to the penitentiary. One was a black man, another a mulatto, and another white. The black, Caesar Cave, is an ignorant old fellow who can, it is said, neither read nor write, and was let off comparatively easily, on the ground that he had been made the dupe of the others. But all three on their way to prison said that they did not expect

to be confined more than fifteen days, so sure were they that Moses, the governor, would pardon them. The judge, in sentencing them and other criminals, interlarded his address with remarks showing how small was his expectation that the judgment of the court would be carried out. He mentioned that "he met parties in the streets a few weeks after he had sentenced them to the penitentiary," and he annexed to the term of imprisonment the qualification "if you are permitted to stay." Moses, the governor, has after all not been arrested, nor has he put in an appearance. His case was called on Friday last in the court at Orangeburg, and, on his not answering, the State Solicitor asked for a bench-warrant to bring him up, but the court refused it. His counsel then moved to have the case stricken from the docket, on the ground that the governor of a State cannot be indicted and tried without first being impeached. The court reserved its decision, which carries the case over to the next term, and is thus a virtual triumph for Moses. The report says that the denunciation of his peculations and frauds by the State Solicitor was received with "shouts of laughter" in a crowded court-room.

The railroad interest of the country sustained a severe loss last week by the death of Mr. John Edgar Thomson, who has for twenty-five years been President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, which has risen in his hands from a small affair with 246 miles of road into a corporation controlling thousands of miles, and owning a capital of \$150,000,000. Moreover, during the whole of that period, the line has paid its dividends regularly, with one omission in 1857. We may add that, in spite of the magnitude of the enterprise, there is no other railroad in the country in which a stockholder is so sure at the annual meeting to get a clear and an intelligible account of the state of the corporate affairs, and on the management of which his opinion is likely to have so much influence. The credit of this, and in our day it is a wonderful thing, was mainly due to Mr. Thomson; and though, like all men engaged in the tremendous game of competition which the conduct of these great enterprises involves, he exposed himself often to censure, one marvels at the close of his career at the small amount of it he drew forth. His life reveals to us in great part where it is that the highest order of administrative ability in this country and in our day goes, and why it is not found in the Treasury and the Custom-house, and places in a somewhat comic light the attempts that are now being made to commit the railroads of the country to the supervision of the Murphys and Logans and the philosophers of the Granges.

Rochefort—"Count Rochefort de Luçay," as his Bohemian friends are fond of calling him—has arrived in New York, by way of San Francisco, and has written more than a full page of his peculiar rignarole to the *Herald*, and a strong effort is being made in the journalistic, cremationistic, spiritualistic, communistic, and polygamous circles to make enough sensation about him to secure a good attendance at a "conference" he proposes to give at \$2 a head. The *Chicago Tribune* has rightly designated him as the French edition of George Francis Train, but this remark suggests some melancholy reflections on the condition of his unhappy country—reflections which the best Frenchmen indulge every day. That Rochefort, originally a light, scatter-brained, half-taught paragraph-writer for the Paris press, without ideas or convictions, and then a clever but coarse and unscrupulous lampooner, should have been raised into a political personage, whose libels convulsed Paris, and whom the Empire felt bound to put down as a dangerous enemy, was one of the signs of the political and social debasement and corruption which prepared the way for the shameful defeats and prostration of the following year. A people who could make a hero of this poor Bohemian, everybody saw and felt deserved to be, and could not but be, thrashed by a stronger and manlier enemy, and France was accordingly thrashed almost to death's-door. When the time for action came, Rochefort, as might have been expected, was found absolutely worthless. He fainted on occasions of great excitement,

and lapsed into insignificance and powerlessness, which, luckily for him, afterwards passed as innocence, during the dark days of the Commune, and got off from being shot because he took no active part in the murder, arson, and pillage which he had done much to bring about. The best thing that could happen him now would be to be drafted for some regular industry, but it appears he is going to establish himself in Switzerland in the lampoon business once more, and expects to be able to annoy MacMahon, and thus contribute to the establishment of something which he calls a "republic." His stay here is, we understand, only to last eight days, but during that period decent Americans owe it to the Frenchmen who are laboring to resuscitate their country to let him pass on with as little attention as possible. We are surprised to see a paper of the standing of the *Evening Post* treating his story of the Commune in the *Herald* as worthy of credit. His appearance here as an historian ought to be too much for average credulity.

The American Iron and Steel Association held a meeting last week in Philadelphia, at which eighty furnaces were represented by about fifty iron-masters. There was no representation from the iron interest of this State, large as it is, and a very small one from that of Ohio, both of which, we believe, disapproved of the objects of the meeting. The resolutions told a somewhat dismal story of the condition of the iron interest in this country. Of the 666 furnaces in the United States, only 400 are in operation, and many of these, it is expected, will shortly have to stop also. 175,000 workmen have been already thrown out of employment in this trade alone, and the number will probably be increased. The meeting then proceeded to lay down the following doctrines, extraordinary for this age and this country, that "it is the duty of the Government to protect its citizens from widespread calamities which are the result of natural causes"; that Congress ought to provide employment for the ironmen by completing the railroads already authorized between the Atlantic and Pacific, by increasing the facilities for cheap transportation by water, and thus end our Indian troubles; that it ought also to inflate the currency by passing the Maynard bill, and that the workingmen should agitate in favor of this bill; that Congress ought also to take measures to prevent the threatened influx of foreign iron into this country; and that iron-masters ought to reduce production so as to raise prices. It so happens that the present depression in the iron trade prevails all over the civilized world; that it is both the natural and the usual consequence of a period of great activity and high prices caused by a railway mania; that the country has now more railroads than it needs, or can afford to pay for, as thousands of stockholders in them know to their cost; and that there is not now, and has not been for two years, any influx of foreign iron into this market.

A monument was erected to James Fisk, Jr., in the cemetery at Brattleboro, Vermont, on Saturday last. It cost \$20,000, the funds being supplied by Mrs. Fisk. As the memory of Mr. Fisk is held in great reverence by that simple rural community, there was a large crowd at the ceremony of the dedication, for which the services of a Universalist minister, Mr. Harris, had been judiciously secured—ministers of other denominations not being able to speak with equal confidence as to the fate of the deceased. On each corner of the monument is a life-size female figure, representing "Navigation," the "Drama," "Railroads," and "Commerce" respectively, the Colonel having achieved distinction in all these departments of activity, as well as of some others. Mr. Harris was very cautious in his prayer, as he had need to be, and thanked God more especially for giving us "so broad ideas with regard to human character." In his address he dwelt mainly on the history and significance of funeral art. About Fisk he said simply "that he was not acquainted with our brother, though he had reason to believe that he had a great, good heart." The ceremony was altogether a curious one, and raises a question of some interest as to the precise limits of a clergyman's duty to the memory of great rascals. "What am I to

say," Mr. Harris would do well to ask himself, "to any American boy who, having seen me helping, by my presence and my phrases, to throw a halo over Brother Fisk's memory, goes home and studies his life, and then comes to ask me if I really thought that he deserved a costly monument and a pious dedication?"

The Treaty of Washington provided for a money compensation to be paid by the United States for the opening of the Canadian fisheries to American fishermen, the amount to be determined by Commissioners to be subsequently appointed. Prior to the appointment of these Commissioners, however, the Canadians have been making an effort to be allowed to waive the compensation in money and receive in its stead a renewal of the Reciprocity Treaty, and have published extensively, during the past fortnight, the facts with which they support their plan, which are certainly very formidable. Since the abrogation of the Treaty, the foreign trade of Canada has increased from \$115,000,000 to \$240,156,203 in 1872. Under the Treaty, fifty-two per cent. of this trade was with the United States; at present, only thirty-five per cent. of it is with this country. In fact, Canada has been pushing her trade with foreign countries with the most extraordinary vigor, and taking possession of markets which we, with our depreciated currency, have been compelled to surrender. We believe the draught of a new treaty has been prepared in Washington, and is now under consideration. It provides for the waiver of the money compensation for the fisheries by Canada; for the enlargement of the Canadian canals at Canadian expense, and the opening of them to American shipping; for the free navigation of Lake Michigan on the same terms as the St. Lawrence; for the free interchange of the products of the farms, mines, forests, and of animals, meat, butter, and cheese, and possibly agricultural implements, manufactures of iron and steel, of wood, mineral ores, and salt, and some other articles.

In England, the only two questions of importance which are occupying the public mind are the attempt of the bishops to deal with Ritualism in the church, and the warfare between the farmers and the laborers and its possible political consequences. The progress of Ritualism is so rapid, and is, owing to the independence of the clergy, so often carried in the teeth of the hostility and disgust of the laity, that it is universally felt that something must be done to stop it, in order to prevent some great disaster to the Establishment, and a bill has accordingly been brought into the House of Lords by the two archbishops, giving the bishops power for the suppression of Ritualistic practices by a somewhat summary process. A statement made by the Archbishop of York, as to the cost and result of attempts to punish heresy and prevent strange ceremonies, in the ecclesiastical courts, throws some curious light on the impunity which the Ritualists have thus far enjoyed. He said the trial of Mr. Mackonochie—a famous case—cost \$10,000, in round numbers, in the court below, and the appeal to the Privy Council cost \$7,500. Judgment was obtained against him, but as he would not obey it, it cost \$7,500 more to enforce it, so that the total expense of bringing him back to the right path was about \$25,000. The case of Purchas, in like manner, cost \$7,000 in the court below, and \$12,000 in the Privy Council. Bennett's case gave nearly the same trouble and expense. It took nearly \$15,000 to get judgment against him, and these costs do not include counsel fees, which were enormous. This money has to come out of the pockets of the prosecutors, and is hardly ever recovered; so that prosecutions are naturally rare. Moreover, the Ritualizer is sure that, even if he is sued, it will take from four to five years before a final decision can be obtained.

The Municipal Bill was passed to a second reading in the French Assembly on Monday by a majority of nearly 100, which is sufficient for the new ministry. The Electoral Bill was then brought on on Tuesday, and led to a tumultuous debate, M. Brisson, a member of the Left, opening with a savage attack on the Bonapartists, and predicting that the passage of the bill would lead to a revolution or

a *plébiscite*. M. Gambetta has also made a speech at Auxerre, mainly devoted to onslaughts on the Bonapartists, and to denunciations of the *plébiscite*, another proof of the correctness of the assertion we made recently that the Bonapartists were now the rising party, and the one the Republicans most dread. The Monarchists seem to be momentarily out of the field, and the Bonapartist plan of appealing to the people has a dangerously democratic air. M. Gambetta, the telegraph says, calls it a "lying homage to the national sovereignty," and thinks the appeal to the people should be taken simply by a general election, in which the establishment of the Republic should be taken for granted. That is, he is willing to let the people vote, provided they accept his system of government. This is the way with all the French leaders also, but the Bonapartists have by far the neatest device. They apparently submit the form of government to the popular vote, but what they really submit is whether there shall be an empire or anarchy, and on this the Empire is pretty sure to carry the day.

The new German press law, which is considered a gain for the press, releases persons desiring to start a newspaper from the necessity of depositing caution-money with the Government, and abolishes the tax hitherto levied on newspapers. The police can no longer seize a newspaper at pleasure and have the court decide subsequently at some indefinite period whether they did right. Hereafter, a seizure can only be made when there is fair ground for believing that the copy contains an article likely to excite the people to acts of violence, and the decision of the court must be obtained in forty-eight hours, and all press offences are hereafter to be tried by the ordinary tribunals. The editor is responsible unless he chooses to give up his contributor; but if he does not do so, anybody the police chooses to select—editor, publisher, printer, or news-vender—may be fined \$250 for circulating the offending article. All this seems tolerably rigid, but it is a great advance on the old law, and is pretty sure to be greatly modified in practice, as the old law was. The German Government has never been very worrying towards the press, which may, however, be a sign of contempt as well as of respect.

The cause of the late ministerial crisis in Italy appears, from our latest Italian files, to have been due to the opposition to the budget for the current year. Three measures particularly for raising additional revenue were under discussion, all of which were more or less objectionable. One was the assumption by the state of a tax on manufactures heretofore levied by the provinces, which of course made the imposing of a new tax or taxes necessary on the part of the latter, with a loss in simplicity and cheapness of collection and in certainty of return. A second was the extension to the island of Sicily of the Government monopoly of tobacco exercised in the rest of the kingdom, which was naturally vehemently opposed by the Sicilian deputies and by their radical fellow-delegates. The third measure denied all legal validity to non-registered deeds. This encountered in advance a deep repugnance, and its defeat was confidently predicted after the bill relating to manufactures had been carried by only two votes. Apparently it gave rise to a week's discussion, which ended in its being rejected, and in the subsequent resignation of the Minghetti ministry, which the King, however, refused to accept. There was, in fact, no good reason for making a cabinet question of such a petty financial detail.

It is becoming more plain that the failure of General Concha to follow the Carlists up promptly has enabled them to reorganize their forces and even resume the offensive. At the latest reports, they were besieging Hernani, a town in Guipuscoa, on the main road from Bayonne, and had reduced it to the last extremity, and were also assailing San Sebastian and pressing it hard. Serrano has, in the meantime, gone to Madrid to take charge of politics, and it is reported will shortly submit the question of monarchy or republic to the people, and if there is a monarchical majority will offer the throne to Don Alfonso.

THE TREASURY AND PUBLIC OPINION.

ALL grown people remember the time when meetings of voters felt great pleasure in being told that this was a government of the people and for the people; that the will of the people was the law of the land; and that all great officers, from the President down, were only the people's servants, appointed to execute that will. This idea is too pleasing to be easily uprooted, and it is quite likely that, in remote country districts, it is entertained to this day. Doubtless there are countless public schools where our patriotic youth are taught to thank God that they live in a country where every man has a voice in public affairs, and not under a monarchy where some prince would tread them under foot without regard to their rights or their wishes. Those philosophic foreigners think the same thing who tell us that the policy of a republican form of government is liable to be swayed to and fro by sudden outbursts of popular excitement, and therefore prefer a monarchy, where such outbursts can be resisted by the firm and calm resistance of the sovereign and his advisers.

If there are any intelligent men of the present day who do not know that all this is an utter delusion, a study of the case of Mr. Richardson, and a comparison of our proceedings in it with those which would be carried on in a constitutional monarchy like England, under the same circumstances, must convince them of the fact. If there is any one feature in the practical working of a constitutional monarchy which stands out in glaring contrast to ours, it is that of implicit obedience to the will of the nation, and rigid responsibility to the people for every public act. To take but one instance out of the many that must present themselves to every intelligent reader of the newspapers, we may contrast the English rule, that a cabinet officer who fails to be endorsed by his constituency must retire from office, with the American one of giving a rejected candidate some high office to console him. If the English people should form the same opinion of a Chancellor of the Exchequer which the American people have been compelled to form of Mr. Richardson, he could not remain in office a day. The effect of attempting to do so would, indeed, be too serious to be thought of. If, when Parliament should be led to believe that the treasury had been robbed by a combination so corrupt that hardly a reputable public man or newspaper could be found to defend it, and when the Chancellor could be cleared from the charge of complicity only by showing the grossest irregularity and carelessness in the management of his office, the Queen should publicly announce that he should not resign until the attacks on him had ceased, her course would be considered revolutionary. An authoritative statement of the kind can be made in this country only because, under our system, it is none of the people's business what sort of a Secretary of the Treasury we have, except when they are called upon to vote. In England, such a Secretary is responsible to Parliament, and not to the country or to the Queen, while here he is responsible only to the President, since, for our present purposes, we may leave impeachment out of view. Having convinced the President that he is all right, he can treat the opinion of the nation with contemptuous indifference.

Not that Mr. Richardson was really indifferent at heart; no man could help feeling troubled by the thought that four-fifths of his fellow-citizens believe him incompetent to fill the office which he holds. But it would have been extremely undignified for him to give any public or official indication of such a feeling. In fact, he remained in office, we are told, at a great personal sacrifice, and it is easy to see that he made this sacrifice not because he thought the country would think any better of him for doing it, but because he felt under the necessity of letting the country see that its opinion in the matter was not of the slightest official moment. As soon as the country clearly saw and accepted this, and gave up attacking him as a piece of impertinent meddling with other people's business, he was going to resign. The difference between the English and American systems is just this: under the former, when a high officer is called before the bar of public opinion on an accusation of misconduct, he defends

himself as well as he can, and stands or falls according to the decision of the court. In this country, he informs the court that he does not acknowledge its jurisdiction; that when the court sends out its bailiff on his quadrennial round it will probably find him no worse than his neighbors; and that the action of the court places him under the disagreeable necessity of avoiding its neighborhood entirely, lest it might get the impression that he had some thought of respecting its summons.

The real difference is of course still deeper, and is to be found in public opinion itself. Instead of treating the defaulter in the summary manner he would be dealt with in England, our court, after fuming and threatening for a short time, comes to the conclusion that perhaps the man is right after all, and that, any way, he is a plucky fellow. Before the bailiff can be sent round, the recollection of the offence is drowned in that of a number of others, and if the accused is found, on the whole, no worse than his accusers, the court shakes hands with him and begs his pardon.

We do not say all this for the purpose of showing that our system of public responsibility is inferior to that of England; on the contrary, we enjoy the very advantage of security against sudden changes of public opinion which has been supposed to be the peculiar attribute of a monarchy. Constant interference with the managers of a delicate machine like that of government is a bad general policy, and rather than institute it, we had better put up now and then with bad management. This is especially the case in the conduct of delicate negotiations which threaten to terminate in war with foreign powers. If, under such circumstances, we compare the position of the American diplomatist with that of the English one, the former having a public behind him disposed to leave the whole matter in his hands as a part of his business and not of theirs, the latter a crowd of not very cool-headed men seeking to dictate every message, and ready to crush him if he does not yield instant compliance with their views, it must be admitted that the advantage is all on the side of the former. It is hardly too much to say that had the English people entertained the same sense of wrong toward a foreign power which our people entertained toward England on account of the depredations of the *Alabama*, the preservation of the peace through six years of dilatory negotiations would hardly have been possible. The case of Mr. Richardson is only an extreme one, which shows our system in its most unfavorable light, and is very valuable as exploding the popular fallacy that in this country the will of the people is the supreme law. As against the President and the Secretary of the Treasury, the will of the people is not only utterly powerless for the present, but the case is one on which, in the nature of things, they can never have an opportunity of officially expressing their will. They may, indeed, remove them both two years hence, but in doing so they can only express their opinions of the relative merits of their administration as a whole compared with the probable merits of their political opponents. On the question of the Sanborn contracts they can express their opinion only through Congress and the newspapers, in both of which channels it is entirely extra-official; and, in the view of the President, absolutely impertinent. Let us, then, admit that, however it may be in theory, the Government of England is in practice more of a republic than ours just in proportion as six hundred men elected by the people, and a hundred newspapers conducted by a thousand intelligent men, are more likely to express the popular will than a single man elected for a term of years. We had to bear patiently with Mr. Richardson, so long as he chose to sacrifice his interests to his official dignity by remaining in the Treasury, as one of the unpleasant results of a good system. Had he stayed there two years longer, he would probably have heard the opinion of the public expressed in an official and decided way, which would have led to his being succeeded by some one who, along with respect for the independence of the executive power, had some decent regard for public opinion.

The question may arise whether the President, believing, as he did, that Mr. Richardson was an efficient and valuable secretary,

could remove him in obedience to a demand like the present without giving up the independence of the executive, or, at least, whether compliance would not be the entering-wedge of the English system in its entirety. We think directly the contrary. The most certain way in which the Executive can preserve his independence is by showing a disposition to use it with due deference to public opinion. The severest strokes it ever suffered was when it lay in the hands of Andrew Johnson, and it suffered them not through his deference to the popular views, but by such acts as that of the President in retaining Mr. Richardson. If, indeed, Congress had begun by passing a hasty vote of want of confidence in the Secretary of the Treasury, there would have been some reason to fear the effect of a removal made in obedience to such a vote. But, far from doing anything of the sort, Congress has acted with a degree of forbearance which no other similar body in the world would have exhibited under the circumstances, and without receiving any thanks in return. The idea we wish to express is almost exactly that of the President himself, when he said that the surest way to secure the repeal of obnoxious laws was to enforce them. The surest way to ensure the downfall of the independence of the executive power is to use it in defiance of the popular will in matters so purely personal and ministerial as the retention of a cabinet officer.

CORPORATIONS AND MONOPOLIES.

THE proceedings which have been taken in Wisconsin against the railroads furnish a good illustration of the dominion over men's minds which mere phrases sometimes come to exercise. The phrase which is causing most of the trouble in Wisconsin is one which lawyers originated, and which has, in legal nomenclature, served a very useful purpose, viz., that "corporations are the creatures of the law." As a legal proposition this is perfectly sound, and it draws after it a considerable number of legal consequences of more or less importance and variety. A corporation is a piece of machinery devised by lawyers to enable persons to use their capital in great undertakings, with an amount of risk proportioned to the sum they contribute and not to the size of the enterprise in which they engage. It is, in short, an ingenious device for facilitating co-operation, and it was produced in order to meet a necessity created by the Anglo-Saxon view of the proper limits of the province of government. That the state should do nothing that can possibly be performed by individual citizens may almost be called one of the fundamental doctrines of English and American jurisprudence. Hence, when the growth of the community and the multiplication of its wants and the increasing accumulation of its capital opened up new fields of enterprise, and great works, such as on the Continent of Europe are executed by Government, began to be thought of and called for, the state naturally provided whatever legal apparatus was necessary to secure their execution, in the Anglo-Saxon way, by associations of citizens. What we call a corporation is really this legal apparatus, and not the body of persons who avail themselves of it. It is a legal enactment, that anybody who chooses to use his money in a certain way and under certain conditions, shall not expose himself to the loss of more than the sum he originally fixed on as the extent of his venture.

Not unnaturally, however, the term "corporation" has come to be regarded as the name of a very powerful person, without a soul or sense of moral responsibility, and therefore capable of various acts injurious to the public welfare on which an individual citizen would not venture, and which owes its birth and strength and activity wholly to the law; and this view of it has derived a great deal of support from contemporaneous facts. It has led a good many modern statesmen to doubt whether it is on the whole wise for the State to leave so many of the greater works of the community to private enterprise; whether the Government ought not greatly to extend the sphere of its operations, both by purchasing the property of existing corporations and refusing to create new ones, and whether the apparatus already furnished for the protection of private capital engaged in co-operative undertakings ought not to be

altered or amended, of course with a due regard to interests already created and expectations already raised. We say with a due regard to interests already created and expectations already raised, for without this no real statesman ever thinks of any change, because the first duty of every government, as of every man, is not to cheat, and cheating by government consists mainly in leading men to believe that certain facts which it has itself called into existence will continue to exist, and then suddenly destroying them. Its power of cheating in this way is enormous, because it can change the law, which a private citizen cannot do. In dealing with a private citizen, therefore, one is not obliged to rely much on his honor, as he has no more power over the machinery for raising or enforcing obligations than those with whom he bargains. But a government can, by merely passing an act, lead persons into all sorts of undertakings to the extent of their whole fortune, and may then suddenly, by repealing the law or adulterating the coinage, or calling some rival interest into existence, ruin them. Its moral responsibility is therefore in the ratio of its power, and it may cheat frightfully by simply doing things which it was reasonable in a prudent man to believe it would not do, though it had never given any express pledge on the subject.

When the talk of the lawyers was transferred to the marketplace, it, as might have been expected, obtained a much wider and, as now appears, very mischievous application. When a lawyer says "a corporation is the creature of the law," he means simply that the cluster of provisions protecting and defining the interests of stockholders have been created by the law, and that it is competent for the law to alter or withdraw them in any manner consistent with good faith. But when some of the newspapers which took up the championship of the Grangers a year ago began to use this phrase in the warfare on the railroads, they worked themselves and worked many of the Grangers into the belief that what the phrase meant was not only that the legal machinery under which the railroads were made was the creation of the state, but that the railroads themselves and their appurtenances (or, in other words, the property of the corporation) also belonged to the state in its capacity of creator; and that if the state was not satisfied it could seize its "creature" and appropriate it to its own use. We see this idea, monstrous as it seems now, being actually embodied in some of the recent Western legislation, and it has been supported in some of the Western papers, which are now apparently somewhat ashamed of their work, with an amusing parade of legal authorities. In no other way could the attempt which is being made in Wisconsin to compel large numbers of widows, orphans, professional men, and others who have invested money in Wisconsin railroads, to carry grain at rates below cost, be made in the eyes of decent people to wear the appearance of a legitimate exercise of governmental authority. The Wisconsin farmers have by much iteration come to look upon the railroads as the property of the state, because the owners, taken together, are called a "corporation." The fact is that the property of the corporation is, for all moral purposes, exactly the same in nature and incidents as the property of a single man. Stealing it is theft; taking it forcibly, whether under the forms of law or *vi et armis*, is robbery; and anybody who induces or incites others to do it, whether he be editor or "professor," is, if not crazy, an accessory before the fact.

If the state is not satisfied with the machinery by which it has called corporations into existence, it has an obvious remedy: it can either repeal or modify the law under which it created them; but it is bound in doing so to avoid cheating—that is, it is bound to compensate those whom it may injure in the process. So far as any such change affects the property of the corporation, it affects the property of individuals, and this the state did not create or contribute to. If a corporation has made money, it is a proof that it has supplied a commodity which the public greatly desired, and it is no more open to censure on this account than a single citizen would be. The state is not entitled to share in its profits unless it stipulated that it should do so or agreed to guarantee the undertaking against

loss. This is not true of any Western State. None of them stipulated for a share in the profits of the railroads or offered any guarantee against loss, or uttered any warning that railroad stock would ever be put on any other footing than private property. The denunciations of "watered stock," in so far as they have any basis at all, rest on the assumption that there was an agreement or understanding between the railroads and the public, that whenever the corporations found they were making more than a fair interest on capital invested they would give the public the benefit of it by lowering their rates. There is, however, no trace anywhere of any such agreement or understanding. No Western railroad could ever have been constructed with private capital on any such understanding. They all looked so hazardous when first projected that the chance of ordinary profits only would not have induced anybody to furnish the means of making them. The recent declamation with regard to "watered stock" is simply intended as a flimsy disguise for spoliation, and would be none the less so even if it could be shown that the railroads earned on the average the profits usual in other business, which they do not.

Another term used by the Grangers and their friends which has worked equal mischief is "monopolies." A monopoly, in its original and odious sense, means the legal exclusion from the market of all sellers but one. Such monopolies have existed, and do exist still in Europe. They are unknown here; the only approach to them is the legal reservation of the American market to certain classes of American producers, called "protection to native industry." But no railroad belongs to the category of monopolies properly so called. In so far as railroads have exclusive possession of the business of transportation, they owe it simply to the magnitude and difficulty of their enterprise; and to this kind of monopoly they are entitled. It is one of the natural rewards of entering on enterprises of great difficulty, and to make it a ground of reproach is ludicrous. It is like abusing a forlorn hope on account of the smallness of their number. If making a railroad in the wilderness was an easy matter, and the profit sure, the "monopoly" would naturally disappear at once.

The part which these and similar phrases have played in the Granger movement, combined with the total absence thus far of any definite statement of their griefs, and of the remedies they propose, make one fear that they are themselves aware of the hollowness of their complaints and the serious moral weakness of much of their action. We were in hopes that the paper read by Mr. Flagg at the late meeting of the Social Science Association would, in deference to the audience to which it was addressed, contain a clear and precise account of what the Western farmers want in the matter of transportation, and how they propose that it should be supplied, but it treated us to some general declamation on "the rights of labor" and the wickedness of "rings" and "monopolists," of which we have already had so much, and which throws so little light on the subject. That existing corporations need reform, and that the future corporations hereafter created ought to be something different from those now in existence, no reasonable man can deny; but reforms which originate in knavery are hardly likely to be fruitful in good.

Correspondence.

NOT A BAD IDEA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

In "The Thirde Booke" of "the description of Britaine," which serves as an introduction to Holinshed's 'Chronicles,' cap. 6, there occurs the following quaint account of "Halifax law," which is perhaps the earliest description of the machine that has conferred a dubious immortality on Dr. Guillotin. As an illustration of merry England in the olden time, before symbolism had disappeared from criminal justice, it may be worth the space it will occupy in your columns.

"Theeves are hanged everywhere generally, sauing in Halifax, where they are beheaded after a strange maner, and whereof I find this report.

There is and hath been of ancient tyme a law or rather a custome at Halifax, that whosoever doth commit any felony and is taken with the same, or confesse the facts upon examination, yf it be valued by fower countables to amount to the summe of thirteene pence halfe peny, he is forthwith beheaded upon the next market day (which fall usually upon the tuesdayes, thursdays, and saterdayes), or else vpon the same day that he is so conuicted, yf market be then holden. The engine wherewith the execution is done is a square block of wood of the length of foure foote and an halfe, which doeth ryde up and downe in a slot, rabot, or regall between two peeces of timber, that are framed and set vpright of fiew yards in height. In the neather ende of the slyding blocke is an Axe keyed or fastened wyth Iron into the wood, which being drawne vp to the top of the frame is there fastned with a wooden pinne (the one ende set on a peece of woodde which goeth crosse over the two rabets, and the other ende being let into the blocke holding the Axe, with a notche made into the same after the maner of a Sampson's post) vnto the middest of which pinne there is a long rope fastened that commeth downe among the people, so that when the offendour hath made his confession, and hath layde his neck ouer the neathermost blocke, every man therē present doth eyther take hold of the rope (or putteth forth his arme so neere to the same as he can get, in token that he is willing to see true justice executed), and pulling out the pinne in this maner, the head blocke wherein the axe is fastened doth fall downe wyth such a violence that yf the necke of the transgressor were so bigge as that of a bull, it should be cut in sunder at a stroke, and roll from the bodie by an huge distaunce. If it be so that the offendour be apprehended for an oxe or oxen, sheepe, kine, horse, or any such cattell, the selfe Beast or other of the same kinde, have the ende of the rope tyed somewhere unto them, so that they drawe out the pin whereby the offendour is executed."

In the first edition of Holinshed (1577), on p. 49 of the 'Historie of Irelande,' there is a woodcut illustrating the execution of Merced Ballagh in 1307, where an implement of this kind is represented, except that the axe-block is suspended by a rope to a ring in the cross-head, and the executioner is shown as cutting the rope with a knife.

In reading of the summary justice habitually practised by our ancestors, one cannot help thinking that a little "Halifax law" applied to our public thieves, though it might thin out woefully the ranks of our "statesmen," might not be a bad thing for the commonwealth. If, adopting the simple symbolism of the sixteenth century to the needs of our modern civilization, all embezzlers, receivers of bribes, participants in fraudulent contracts, and such like gentry, could be placed under the Halifax block, with a counterweight representing the amount of their stealings—in bullion, not in greenbacks—perhaps the example might tend to raise the tone of public morality.

Very respectfully, etc.,

L.

PHILADELPHIA, May 25, 1874.

THE WAR DEPARTMENT AND THE NATIONAL SURVEYS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I cannot attempt a complete reply to the article on the national surveys published in the *Nation* of May 21, but I request the insertion of the following remarks concerning the character, education, and organization of the United States Corps of Engineers, which that article so completely misrepresents. This corps is composed of graduates of the Military Academy, selected from those who have taken high honors. The instruction at West Point is thorough, and the selection of these officers is made after eight severe examinations. There is no other method by which an appointment in the Corps of Engineers can be obtained. Consequently, this organization has more *esprit de corps* than any other in the country, and it is its proud distinction that for more than fifty years it has disbursed millions of the public money, and not one cent has been lost through the dishonesty of its officers. The principal duties of the corps are not military but civil, and this has been the case since its organization. Among these that of conducting and executing surveys for the Government has heretofore been numbered.

The education which these officers receive at West Point to fit them for this duty is as follows: The instruction in mathematics is thorough and sufficiently extensive; in surveying, it is limited, but furnishes all the principles required and some practice; in reconnaissance, it is quite thorough, and has been much extended of late years; in field-astronomy, it is particularly good, including considerable practice in the field-observatory, which is fitted with the best modern instruments. In this last respect I do not believe the instruction is equalled at any institution in the country. After graduation, the engineer-officer's instruction in surveying and field-astronomy is continued at Willett's Point, and finally, after a few years' service in the Lake Survey, he ought, I think, to know something more about this branch of his profession than merely the "methods of military topography."

In point of fact, there are officers in the Corps of Engineers who, as surveyors, topographers, and field-astronomers, cannot be excelled by any in the country. As an example, I may mention the astronomical field-work executed last year in the Survey of the Northern Boundary, which is equal,

if not superior, to any that has ever been produced in this country. Is it fair, then, to speak of exploration as being "left to the leisure of army officers, and followed by them as a *hors d'œuvre*," when there are no other men in the country, the officers of the Coast Survey alone excepted, who make topography so thoroughly their profession, and who are so well fitted by education and practice for this very work?

The education of engineer-officers at West Point in general science is quite limited, except in theoretical mechanics, in which the instruction is much more thorough and advanced than is usual in our best colleges. But as far as it goes, it is *acquired* by the leading graduates of each class with a thoroughness not often found in other institutions.

These facts warrant the following conclusions: Officers of the Corps of Engineers are as well fitted as any men in the country to execute the topographical surveys of the Government. They are competent to supervise the various scientific explorations which may be attached to these surveys, and which, for many reasons, ought to be secondary to the topographical work. They are *better* fitted than any other body of men in the country to superintend the disbursement of the public money for these purposes, and see that it is expended with honesty and economy. Whether the "best scientific skill" is possessed by the officers of this corps or not, you cannot deny that they "possess practical capacity and exceptional courage and activity," and some additional good qualities, not always possessed by other servants of the Government, which you do not see fit to mention—honesty, economy, and a strict regard for truth.

Now, it is proposed to take the national surveys from this corps and place them in the hands of the "scientific men" of the country. In other words, it is proposed to remove all the safeguards which have so far protected from even the suspicion of corruption all that part of this branch of the public service which has been under the control of the War Department, and leave the selection of those who are to conduct these surveys to be made after the usual manner of Government appointments. Are there no charlatans and humbugs among the "scientific men" of the country, that the *Nation* should advocate such a course as this? Is it not just possible that some of these gentlemen, who have acquired the art of obtaining influence in Washington, will be "called to this profession by native impulse"? How long will it be before these fat opportunities are grasped by professional explorers of the halls of the Capitol, and then how long before the investigating committees begin their accustomed work? This talk about the "invidious selection of the graduates of one school" is unworthy of the *Nation*. The question is not one of sharing the spoils. It concerns the interests of the country, not those of the schools; and I cannot and will not believe that the feelings and opinions of true scientific men can be influenced by such paltry considerations.

The decision of this question is not of great importance to the Corps of Engineers. It has other duties upon which its officers can be employed. But I believe it to be of great importance to the country. At all events, let us hear no more outcries for civil-service reform if the nearest approach to a perfect civil-service organization which the country has ever possessed is to be thus limited in its usefulness at the demand of intelligent people who ought to know better.

C. W. R.

U. S. NAVAL OBSERVATORY, WASHINGTON, May 26, 1874.

WHO SHALL DIRECT OUR NATIONAL SURVEYS?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: It is to be hoped that all candid men who read the article under the above heading in your issue of the 21st instant will pause for light from other sources before adopting its conclusions. It is a case of special pleading to enlist the sympathies of men of science in favor of a project for turning over *all* Governmental explorations and surveys to the Department of the Interior, and to array their influence in antagonism with the Corps of Engineers of the army.

The following statements and insinuations are put forth, which will be considered in order—viz.:

1. West Point does not furnish the best material for making surveys.

Nobody supposes that it does. Her graduates are content to point to their work of that character, and are afraid of neither competition nor criticism.

2. The work of all Governmental exploration under the War Department bears a taint of want of thoroughness.

This is an irresponsible and unjust insinuation which ought to receive no consideration without proof. Over that long term of years—from 1803 to 1873—it would be strange indeed if a few minor errors had not crept into the work; but they can in no wise vitiate the exceptionally high character of the whole. It is cheap to make such flings as this, that will cling to

anything short of absolute perfection. Exploration is imperfect from necessity.

3. Circumstances have hitherto been unfavorable to anything but reconnaissance work.

The same circumstances are now, and will for a long time to come, be in existence. They are inherent to all exploration.

4. Army (engineer) officers do not appreciate the needs of the scientific workers whom they carry with them.

This evidently comes from the pen of envy, or that of a guest at envy's table.

5. That officers of engineers are not capable geographers.

To support this insinuation, their work is indiscriminately referred to in connection with the wholly unpretentious work of line officers on scouts and marches, and the whole criticised together.

6. That a great improvement in the character of the work has been effected by civilian explorers.

Where is the proof?

7. Whitney's maps of California are the best yet produced of any part of the continent.

A meek and lowly assertion, evidently by one who knows all about maps. Their whole foundation was compiled from the maps of the Engineer Department, and he had only to add the work of a quiet, undisturbed *State* survey to that.

8. Clarence King's Survey of the 40th Parallel is a work that attained even a higher standard than Whitney's.

This survey was made under the War Department, and fairly illustrates the cordial sympathy and assistance which that department extends to capable and *honest* workers for science. His "geographical coadjutor," Mr. James T. Gardner, basely deserted him in the midst of the work, and, for better wages, gave Prof. Hayden last year his *first taste* of triangles in connection with his geological survey.

9. The Hayden surveys have been going on for many years with rich results of every class.

It will be well to count the cost of this survey, and compare such results as have proved rich with those that have proved otherwise. It will be found that the "rich" results are the work of his "auxiliary specialists," and that his own work is tainted with something worse than "a want of thoroughness." It is impossible to avoid personality here, because he is the person that originated and is directing this attack upon the Corps of Engineers. Aided by a number of indefatigable adventurers who look for continuous public service, and by that well-known sentiment in the average citizen's breast that makes him willing to believe anything bad of a soldier, he has been successful in throwing a cloud of dust about the whole question that heads this communication. It would be well, before he is fully endorsed, for men to scrutinize closely his qualifications for the representative geologist and geographer of the United States.

10. Prof. Marsh's paleontological researches in the West.

It is almost trickery to bring in his work in this connection, as he has made no pretence to a survey, and has only been in the field as a collector.

11. Scientific exploration is now falling into the hands of the men to whom it belongs—men fitted for it by natural gift and particular education—men whose lives are devoted to it.

Who are they? A geologist like Hayden who, before 1872, rambled around the country making either no *survey* at all or local sketch surveys that had no earthly connection with any known positions; a geographer who in 1871 did not know that a nautical almanac was essential in the astronomical field-work that he was then essaying for the *first time*; an explorer who, in the report of his Yellowstone Survey (†) of 1871, puts down on his map a range of mountains lying south of Yellowstone Lake, giving them the name of "The Yellowstone Mountains," which range has no existence; a man of science whose "able corps of specialists" give us altitudes of Yellowstone Lake in two successive seasons that differ by 360 feet! These are the only men of science (†) who have ever found any antagonism in the Corps of Engineers. It is they who have raised the question of placing all of the national surveys under one controlling head, with themselves to direct; and finding in their way the Corps of Engineers—a body of men educated at the country's expense to do just such work as this, who have done it thus far in a way that challenges criticism, and whose special training fits them, in an exceptional degree, for the command and conduct of these large expeditions through the most difficult and often hostile country—they are trying, in a sneaking manner, to get that body out of their way by vilifying and abusing it through the public press, and by attempting to bring about an antagonism between it and the scientific men of the country. All of this is done in the dark. Other persons are instigated to do the work, while they hold themselves up in the lobby of Congress and before the community.

as martyrs who only want to get their appropriation and be let alone while they pursue their loved calling! The Washington correspondent of the *Chicago Times* has acknowledged that he was instigated to write a series of scurrilous and outrageous articles about that corps, and under this cloak they have even succeeded in getting "a strong remonstrance sent to Washington from some of the leading educational institutions—Yale, Harvard, and others—signed by all of their scientific professors," against the selection of the graduates of a military school for the conduct and charge of the "public scientific interests of the country"—an intimation wholly unwarranted and preposterous. All this because a few young officers have traced to its source this malicious attack upon their corps, and are making an energetic retaliation upon its real authors.

The issue that they have brought about is this: Shall the exploration of our territorial domain be conducted under the War Department or the Department of the Interior? Where are the earnest workers for science who wish to see its interests turned over to the haven of saintly purity where our Indian affairs are handled with such honesty, economy, and success? This issue has been forced upon that corps. It had nothing whatever to do with raising it. Assertions and insinuations that it is desirous of conducting all of the public scientific exploration are grossly unjust and untrue. It always has, and always will, extend a welcome hand of sympathy and assistance to all honest and capable coworkers in that or any other field, and all who have the cause of science at heart should apply its sure method of sifting all sides of a question, and hesitate long before joining this crusade against the Corps of Engineers. In conclusion, it may be as well to state that it behoves the scientific interests of the country to look sharply into the character and capacity of the men whom they permit to go before Congress asking for appropriations as their representative. The generosity of Congress to science hangs by a thread which a little dishonesty or mismanagement will soon break.

WASHINGTON, May 25, 1874.

[We offer no comment on the foregoing because it would only prolong a controversy of unusual bitterness, which we are sorry to have raised. But we have no difficulty in acknowledging that there is great force in the objection to giving "statesmen" permission to select "scientific men" from the whole body of male citizens who may offer to make "surveys" for pay and rations, and we had no intention of suggesting any such substitute for the employment of the Engineers, whose character and services certainly nobody appreciates more highly than we do.—ED. NATION.]

Notes.

WE have been favored with a copy of the 'Classified Catalogue of the St. Louis Mercantile Library,' a handsomely printed volume, imperial 8vo, pp. 762. The first part arranges the works under the three general heads of history, philosophy, and poetry, with numerous subdivisions; the second part consists of a general alphabetical index; and, taken together, they well fulfil the main purpose of the catalogue as a ready finding-list. The number of works embraced in it is 40,440, and the collection, without being marked by special features such as distinguish the somewhat larger library of the Wisconsin Historical Society, has perhaps a not inferior capacity for usefulness, and is certainly one on the possession of which the people of St. Louis are to be congratulated. The industry and care which produced this catalogue in the short space of twelve months deserve to be emulated by other libraries.—From the Ordnance Office of the War Department we have Memoranda No. 17, on a trial of Gatling guns of large calibre for flank-defence. The conclusions reached by the examining board, of which General Gillmore was head, were substantially those arrived at in England: the arm has positive utility for certain emergencies as an auxiliary, but not such as to justify displacing shell-guns to any considerable extent "in any locality or under any circumstances." Photolithographic illustrations show clearly the mechanism of the gun and its effect on the targets during the trial.—The United States Engineer Office has just issued the first instalment of the topographical results of the explorations and surveys conducted under Lieutenant George M. Wheeler during the past four years west of the 100th meridian. It consists of six plates, photolithographed by Mr. Julius Bien, whose work needs no praise, namely: (1) a map of the areas of drainage of the United States territory west of the Mississippi, similar, except in scale and in a few trifling discrepancies, to that prepared for General Walker's Census Atlas by General Von Steinwehr; (2) a progress map of lines and areas of explorations and surveys, made under the auspices of the War De-

partment, beginning with Lewis and Clarke in 1804. The region west of the 100th meridian is on this map divided by blue lines into 95 rectangular sections, and the remaining four plates represent in detail (8 miles to an inch) sections 50, 53, 59, and 64—parts of California, Nevada, Arizona, and Utah. A report of the astronomical observations made by the Wheeler Expedition at Cheyenne and Colorado Springs has also been printed.—The *Hartford Courant* states that Mr. J. Hammond Trumbull has discovered a hitherto unknown tract of Roger Williams's, printed in London in 1652. It formed part of a small quarto of 28 pages, called 'The Fourth Paper, Presented by Major Butler, to the Honourable Committee of Parliament, for the Propagating the Gospel of Christ Jesus,' and was "A Testimony to the said Fourth Paper, by way of Explanation upon the four Proposals of it, by R. W." Internal evidence shows unmistakably that the initials attached to this plea for "soul-freedom" stood for Roger Williams. The tract is said to be unsurpassed in literary merit by any that he ever wrote.—Harper & Brothers have in press a 'Life of Rear-Admiral Foote,' by Professor Hoppin of Yale College; 'The Arctic Explorations of Captain George E. Tyson,' including his famous voyage on the ice-raft; Henry M. Stanley's 'Coomassie and Magdala'; and 'The Nimrod of the Seas, or the American Whaleman,' by Captain William M. Davis.—'A History of New Sweden, or the Settlements on the River Delaware,' translated from the Swedish of Pastor Israel Acrelius, is announced by J. B. Lippincott & Co.—Frank Leslie's *El Mundo Nuevo* has been purchased and merged in the *America Illustrada*, the conductor of which, Mr. J. C. Rodrigues, also publishes the companion illustrated paper, *O Novo Mundo*. The latter, we are glad to learn, has attained a circulation larger than that of any periodical or paper published in Brazil, save one daily at Rio. Both these well-edited journals can be recommended to students of Spanish and Portuguese.—The 'Grand Dictionario Portuguez' of Fr. Domingos Vieira, by far the best yet produced, is rapidly approaching completion, the fourth volume having reached the letter P. The price for the entire work is £5 to subscribers.

—Messrs. G. P. Rowell & Co.'s 'American Newspaper Directory' takes on a little more bulkiness every year. We have just received the volume for 1874. The editor, Mr. Nelson Chesman, states the whole number of newspapers (including in that term the monthly and quarterly periodicals) in the United States and Canada to be 7,784, and shows, by reference to the totals of former years, that the annual net increase is between three and four hundred; or, roughly, a new paper or magazine is established every day. Many more are started, and disappear. The plan of this work seems to meet every requirement of the advertiser, and the new edition merits all the praise we have bestowed upon its predecessors. Doubtless, through some neglect of our own to respond to Mr. Rowell's circulars, the size of the *Nation* is put at twenty-four pages, which is true only occasionally—more rarely than we could wish. On the other hand, the *Nation's* circulation is estimated at 8,000 copies, while our necessary weekly edition has for some time been larger by two thousand. Simultaneously with the 'Directory' Mr. E. Steiger's 'Periodical Literature of the United States' reaches our table. This handsome work is the complement of the exhibit which the compiler made for the Vienna Exposition of specimens of every American periodical—an undertaking in which he succeeded so well that, in spite of very great obstacles, he was able to collect and bind up in 119 uniform volumes about 6,000 out of the (estimated) 8,500 periodicals published in the United States a couple of years ago. The apparent discrepancy, by the way, between this and Rowell's total for 1872 (say 7,000), is explainable, in part at least, by the fact that Mr. Steiger counts the weekly, semi-weekly, or tri-weekly edition of a daily paper as a separate periodical. He actually catalogues the titles of 8,081 in a manner more compact than Rowell's, owing to the use of abbreviations, and to the exclusion of data not strictly bibliographical (such as publisher's name, circulation, etc.) The execution of this portion of the list is every way satisfactory. The analytical index is even more remarkable, the subdivisions (according to subject-matter of the various periodicals) amounting to 417, and each topic being given in six languages—English, French, German, Dutch, Italian, and Spanish. Finally, Mr. Steiger prints a few pages of a specimen catalogue of American books, with index of subjects, in order to present his view of the mode in which such a catalogue should be prepared. We must leave it to the librarians to pass judgment on the merits of this system, which lacks nothing of painstaking and accuracy. Mr. Steiger, unfortunately, has not been encouraged by his efforts to procure at first-hand the materials for such a catalogue. "Unless the fact could be attested," he says, "it would seem to savor of exaggeration to state that, of over 2,000 applications for information made to American authors and publishers touching works written or issued by them, only 300 succeeded in eliciting an answer. This is, however, the case"—self-interest or professional pride to the contrary notwithstanding. Mr. Steiger is now engaged in collecting specimens of the periodical publications of all

the nations of the earth, and hopes to have them in shape for exhibiting at the Centennial in 1876. We wish him all success, and that his disinterested efforts in behalf of American literature may yet obtain in this country their due appreciation. We may add that a few small-paper copies of his 'Periodical Literature' may be had of Mr. Steiger at the price of one dollar.

—Hanging committees in general are privileged bodies in the matter of making a great deal of talk among artists and people interested in yearly exhibitions; but this year's committee of our National Academy of Design has evidently exceeded its immunities. By rejecting pictures of Mr. La Farge's; by taking a landscape of Mr. Whistler's—the sole contribution of that strong artist—and hanging it over the lofty door of the South Room, where no human eye can see it; by using the space gained in this and similar cases to put "on the line," one after another, five pictures painted by a single member of the Hanging Committee, two or three by another, and so on throughout; by hanging one contributor's picture upside down, or rather with one of the sides uppermost, on the ground that "it looked better"—by these and other acts the committee has not only surprised the public but has even drawn from the Academy a vote of censure, or at least of disapproval. We have mentioned above a number of instances of vagarious action, though it would seem from the resolutions given below that the one first mentioned was the effective one in calling the Academy into the field. However, it is not because of this disapproval, whatever based upon, that we mention the matter. Doubtless the Academy may safely, and may best, be left to settle for itself all such difficulties arising between it and its subordinate officers; and doubtless comment from the outside, if in rare instances proper, is usually impertinent. But the resolutions to which we have referred, and which were voted at the annual meeting on the 13th of May, lay down an important principle or two, and also announce a policy for the future, and are worth the consideration of various corporate bodies besides the Academicians. The resolutions are as follows:

"Whereas, the pictures of an Academician have been returned by the Hanging Committee, be it

"Resolved, That one of the main values and meanings of an academy is the furnishing or helping a recognition of all excellences in art; that the position of an Academician is of course such a recognition, behind which the Academy cannot go, either by itself or any committee; and moreover, secondly,

"Resolved, That the Academy of Design in its exhibitions does not propose to exercise judicial functions and to decide between different schools and methods in art, but that it believes the interests of art to be best aided by the exhibition of all that has obtained sanction in the artistic community." In brief, an academy is to be a conservative body, not slow or grudging in its recognition of new merit, but above all things holding fast that which it has decided to be good, and duly respecting its own past judgments.

—Mr. John A. Jackson, a Bostonian long resident in Florence, has brought to this city a number of portrait and imaginative works, the result of his later labors. Somewhat less successful in his ideal female heads than in efforts of a more virile kind, Mr. Jackson may rest his claim for eminence on the large series of heroic portraits which have accumulated in his atelier for thirty years. The "Musidora," however, though ideal, is certainly a lovely form and a felicitous pose. The bust of Sumner, a recent model, is full of life, and penetrated with resemblance at every point. In the line of archæology, Mr. Jackson has rendered a service to every book-lover by copying as a bronze relief the great Giotto portrait of Dante. The profile is a scrupulous tracing from Giotto's fresco, painted about 1290 in the Chapel of the Podestà in Florence, and plastered over at some period subsequent to Vasari, who speaks of it as visible in his time. In this fresco, Dante, as yet innocent of the 'Inferno,' was represented as clothed in red and white, and holding a pomegranate, in a group with Corso Donati and Brunetto Latini, his tutor. This priceless portrait, immortalizing the poet in the earliest charm of his youth and austere sweetness—the Dante of the 'Vita Nuova'—was restored on its discovery in 1840, with changed colors, by Antonio Marini, the temper of that time not enduring the revolutionary association of red, white, and green: the English antiquarian, Kirkup, published a print of it, thought to be a little modified by over-restoration. Mr. Jackson's copy, redeemed from servility by the addition of a laurel-wreath, is most absolutely a duplicate of the profile, as comparison with the large photograph establishes, and, though not a book, seems, more than most books, to be one of those things that no gentleman's library can be without. Mr. Jackson remains in the city to make a bust of Henry Ward Beecher. We may not inappropriately add that this artist has quite escaped the breath of suspicion in regard to the fully autographic character of his work; his statues are the creation of his own hands, manipulated by their author even to the "draperies," in the rare cases when they have any; and neither Mazzuoli nor any other Italian has had the distinction of helping their development even as an "amanuensis."

—In Von Holtzendorff and Oncken's series of 'Deutsche Zeit- und Streitfragen,' under the title 'Der Felsen Petri—kein Felsen,' Dr. Hesse contributes to the literature of Catholic controversy a number of weighty considerations against the genuineness of the text Matt. xvi. 17-19—the passage in which Jesus assures the primacy in the apostolic church to Peter. His reasons for supposing that this text is of later origin than apostolic times are the difficulty of reconciling other utterances of Christ with the promise he here makes to Peter, and the fact that in the subsequent history of Christianity, as recorded in the New Testament, Peter's supremacy is not acknowledged, and no reference is made to this verse. Paul, even, does not recognize Peter as an adversary, or a superior who enjoyed pre-eminence that rested on any wish of Jesus, but ranks Peter with James and John as apostles who "seemed to be pillars." Dr. Hesse makes an able and ingenious argument, to which, however, one or two objections readily occur. The first, and it is well-nigh fatal, is that there is no authority in the MSS. of the New Testament for regarding the text as other than a genuine utterance of Jesus. It occurs in all the known MSS. from the oldest to the latest. Another is, that whatever the difficulty of harmonizing the text with the omissions mentioned, they are lessened if we insist a little more than New Testament expounders generally do on the humanity of Jesus, and allow moods and impulses a greater part in his life. The passage might lose somewhat in dogmatic and controversial value if this way of removing objections were adopted, but it would be preserved naturally, and would remain valuable to the student of the origin of Christianity.

—The project of a new building for the Royal Library at Berlin is likely to be realized. The present quarters are narrow, crowded, and ill-arranged; the reading-room especially is deficient in comfort, light, ventilation, and in accommodation for the numbers who would be glad to resort to it under more favorable conditions. Besides, the space occupied by the library is needed for the enlargement of the King's palace. Professor Mommsen's earnest complaint to Parliament of the deficiencies of the library has had a good effect upon the Government. Professor Lepsius, who has had charge of the library since the resignation of Dr. Pertz, in his recent annual report showed how the Berlin library has lagged behind other great libraries in the percentage of its increase; and he used with good effect some statistics of the rapid growth of libraries in the United States through private munificence. But much as the library needs a larger grant for books, its first necessity is a separate, commodious, fireproof building; and to this end Dr. Lepsius is devoting all his energies. The King is said to favor the project, and to be willing to appropriate to this use the large plot on the corner of Dorotheen and Charlotten Streets, now occupied by the Caserne of the *Gardes du Corps*; but the military subordinates, to whom these quarters are so accessible, have interposed many objections to this scheme. The location is central, nearly opposite the Hôtel de Rome, in the rear of the Academy, near to the University, the palace, and the principal hotels. The project is in such a state of forwardness that Dr. Lepsius has gone with the royal architect to inspect the libraries of Vienna, Munich, Strassburg, Paris, and Brussels, with a view to the best plan of interior arrangement. He is inclined to favor a system of low, light galleries, dispensing entirely with ladders, and placing all books within easy reach of the hand. Later in the season he will visit London to study the library of the British Museum, and especially the interior economy of the great reading-room. If Prussia shall keep out of war for a few years, the much-needed improvements of a new library and a new cathedral may be secured to the capital.

—Students of political society will not overlook the recent parallelism between Germany and the United States, in the combination of the personal and the popular elements in each government against the representative element in matters concerning the welfare, the safety, and the honor of the state. In Germany, the Emperor, having in view the security of the country against outward attacks, demanded an army of 400,000 men and the means for its sustentation, to be placed at his disposal for an unlimited period. This demand was resisted by the representative body—the Imperial Parliament, elected by universal suffrage—partly in a spirit of factious opposition, partly upon constitutional grounds, and partly through a wholesome fear of danger to popular liberty through such an enormous military force directed by one personal will; that is, the Parliament made the good old stand of the English Commons for the people against the crown. But notwithstanding the many orations that Mr. Banks and others have given us concerning "the effete despotisms of the Old World," we have seen the people of Germany, in mass-meetings at all the centres of commerce, of industry, and of letters, rising up to sustain the Emperor against the Parliament, and, by force of public opinion, speaking through popular assemblies and through the press, compelling the Parliament to a compromise which gives the Emperor the absolute control of this great army and its supplies for the term of seven

years. The popular instinct was more ready to trust the defence of the country, in present emergencies and possible perils, to the "one-man power" than to "the collective wisdom" of such a Parliament as universal suffrage has created for the new Germanic Empire. Parallel with this, we have seen the Congress of the United States ready to sacrifice the welfare, the safety, the honor of the nation by a scheme of inflation that would soon have brought the country into universal bankruptcy. In this hour of peril, the people invoked the "one-man power" which the Constitution has happily reserved as a check upon the perils of crude and unwise legislation. And now the personal will of the President and the popular instinct of safety, of honesty, and of honor stand together against the faction and folly of the representative body. Mere political theorists will find much in this parallel to read, mark, and inwardly digest.

VON HOLST'S CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES.*

PROFESSOR VON HOLST of Freiburg, lately of Strassburg, has published the first instalment of a work which promises to be for the American Constitution what the works of his countryman, Dr. Gneist, are for that of England—the most complete and thorough treatment of it in existence. Besides his natural qualifications for this work, and his German erudition and habits of exhaustive discussion, the author has had peculiar opportunities from his long residence in this country and intimate acquaintance with its language, people, and institutions. The work which he has undertaken, too, is one which, in certain respects, can be best done by a foreigner, who can take a more objective and unbiassed view than is possible to a native. On the other hand, it is equally true that there are matters of temper and popular spirit, arising especially from customs and national character, which lie outside the sympathy of a foreigner, and in regard to which he is in danger of missing their true significance. Something of this we think to be the case in the book before us. For example, in regard to the theory of the union in the Revolutionary times, he has failed to appreciate the power possessed by precedent and legality in all English communities. Seeing the clear necessity, as it appears to us now, of a national union, and taking into consideration, likewise, the fact that the first overt acts of resistance to the British Government and the Declaration of Independence were made by the Continental Congress, he is impatient at the slowness of the community to adopt the national theory in full, and at the reaction, as it seems to him, which established a loose confederation instead of a strong central power. He does not appreciate the intense legalism of the English mind. He saw the American people after its native logical acuteness in political thinking had been sapped by democratic theories derived from French sentimentalism, and, we will add, from the *doctrinaire* writings of German radicals; no wonder he does not realize the fact that the American people, a century ago, was essentially English, with all the English reverence for forms and precedents, and thoroughly imbued with that thoroughly English doctrine that the security of liberty consists in rigidity of procedure. Even now he might see some remnants of this early feeling by attending a town-meeting in some old-fashioned New England town, and observing how every step is characterized by the strictest adherence to parliamentary rules; how the town magistrates may not preside, but a moderator must be chosen; how not an item of business can come up which was not distinctly specified upon a warrant issued under precise rules; how not a dollar can lawfully be spent unless voted beforehand, and, what is more, appropriated to its defined object.

In the formation of our national union, this strict legality manifested itself by forcing the community to choose some mode of action which could show for itself a legitimate and unbroken connection with the previous source of authority—it must be a connection as complete as that of apostolical succession, or of the patrician auspices in ancient Rome. This was found in the existence of local governments. The English administration of the colonies knew nothing of *America* as a political existence; it was Massachusetts, New York, and Virginia. And if by chance two or more colonies were grouped together for purposes of administration, there was no merging of them, but only a temporary connection which might be altered the next year. The dividing of Carolina or the union of Connecticut with New Haven by sovereign authority is no exception to this; it was the sovereign authority upon which the colonies individually depended, and no other colony, much less any combination of colonies, had anything to say about it. This dependence upon England being gone, the colonies found them-

selves each one nominally independent, the national sovereignty being, as has been well said, in abeyance. It is very well to assert that they ought at once to have surrendered this independence in deference to the public interests. They began to do so in the early part of the war; but it is not in nature that bodies which possess power should part with it voluntarily. It was, as Prof. Von Holst shows, only overwhelming necessity that brought about at last this surrender of a status which had many of the attributes of sovereignty, but lacked the most essential, and which could never have sprung into existence or maintained itself except as the result of concerted action on the part of the inhabitants of all the colonies, constituting that "people of the United States" which in 1776 proclaimed independence and assumed national sovereignty.

Again, we think our author is altogether too hard upon the "Selbstgefälligkeit und Ueberhebung dieses Volkes" (p. 54). We have all laughed at the Fourth-of-July style of patriotism, and readily admit that our national vanity very often takes on a petty and offensive tone. But as to the feeling itself, we simply possess it in common with every nation that feels itself to have a destiny. The ancient Greeks styled everybody else barbarians; the Romans proudly called themselves "rerum dominos"; no people has manifested the feeling more offensively than the English; and it is one of the most significant results of the revolutions of the last ten years that now at last the Germans have the feeling and express it. We will add, that it is one of the most discouraging results of the terrible ordeal of misgovernment and corruption through which we are now passing that it is rapidly destroying the natural sentiment of pride in nationality. It has no food to feed upon, in the face of such developments as every newspaper is full of.

This rather harsh tone of criticism is most noticeable in the earlier chapters, perhaps because it is of this period, with its statesmen, that we are most prone to boast, perhaps because the author sees real progress in our political character and aptitudes. As he approaches the great contest which filled up the history of the last generation, he appears to recognize a higher earnestness in the leaders and a more developed political capacity in the masses. "The history of the United States," he says, p. 402, "is too significant, earnest, and instructive a chapter in universal history to deserve to be degraded into the realm of farce (*Posse*) by attributing its most vital phases of development to the pettiest and vilest motives of certain individuals whom chance permits to play a part." Again: "Since the Republic passed through its labor pains, the Americans, with the exception of a few persons, have never fallen into the fatal error of considering revolutions the radical cure for political evils. Servile regard for the government is foreign to the Americans; it is one of the most characteristic features of political life in the United States, and one not to be regarded without solicitude (*nicht unbedenklich*), that the want of respect for the dignity of the office often extends to the violation of the commonest rules of propriety. But this unhealthy expression of the proud consciousness of belonging to a popular state, is as a rule counterbalanced by the far more important recognition—springing from the same consciousness—that the laws are not a hostile power standing outside of the people, but are its binding will."

For the thoroughness and insight with which the political life of the early Republic is described in this volume, we have nothing but the highest praise. We do not know any American work which equals it in these respects; and what is perhaps the most unexpected feature, is the easy mastery of the materials. The citations, which are very abundant, and do not consist in mere references, bear witness to the most varied and extensive acquaintance with our political literature, as well as to an unusual power of selecting from the mass that which would be of most service to the discussion. We have detected but two slight errors—although there are numerous misprints—the names of Th. Pickering (for Timothy), and of Pinckney of Maryland (for Pinkney). The style is eminently straightforward and clear, so that, without being light or rapid reading, it is remarkably easy German for a treatise which deals mainly with the philosophy of politics. We will instance two or three chapters, not as being better in themselves than the rest, but as being perhaps those best calculated to instruct American readers. These are the sixth and eleventh chapters, which trace with great pains the course of party politics at times (the war with England and Monroe's and Adams's administrations) in which we are a little apt to neglect them; and the ninth and tenth, which treat of the economical antagonisms (*wirtschaftliche Gegensätze*) between the free and the slave States. "Not all the great questions," he says, p. 343, "upon which the internal conflicts of the Republic have been conducted from 1789 to 1861 have had their origin in slavery, but it was slavery that in this [the tariff question], as in all others, determined the coincidence of parties with geographical sections." Again, p. 300: "The mass of the small country slaveholders and the indigent (*besitzlos*) laborers, was the saddest social product which the history of

* * Verfassung und Demokratie der Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika. Von Dr. H. von Holst, u. o. Professor an der Universität Strassburg. I. Theil: Staatenverfassung und Sklaverei. Düsseldorf: Verlagshandlung von Julius Budeuss. New York: L. W. Schmitt; F. Steiger. 1873. [First Division, reaching to 1838.] 8vo, pp. 436.

civilized nations (*Kulturvölker*) has to show; an aristocratic proletariat, as well by its want of culture as by its self-complacency, a fearful material in the hands of the self-seeking aristocracy and ambitious politicians."

An excellent feature of the book is the characterization of leading statesmen, especially those of Madison (p. 139), John Quincy Adams (p. 356), and Calhoun (p. 399). Jefferson is no favorite with the author; he quotes a very uncomplimentary expression of Quincy's, with the comment: "Jefferson's character and his personal relation to the embargo, during the last months of his administration, are in these few words depicted with a true master's hand (*Meisterschaft*)," p. 188. It would be easy to select many passages from this book which might profitably be pondered by our people, but we will close with the following remark (p. 184), which was never more true than at present: "The contest on the embargo is one of the best illustrations of the obstinacy with which, in defiance of all experience, this practical people holds fast to political doctrines when it has once assumed them to be true."

The work of which this volume forms a division (Part I. of the entire treatise) is styled "State Sovereignty and Slavery"; the present instalment reaches to the Compromise measures of 1833. It is to be followed, if there is found to be a demand, by Part II., which is to treat of constitutional law, and Part III., of the present political and socio-political situation.

FLAUBERT'S TEMPTATION OF ST. ANTHONY.*

SAINT ANTHONY, as most readers know, was an Egyptian monk who, toward the end of the third century, hid himself in the desert to pray, and was visited by a series of hallucinations painfully irrelevant to this occupation. His visions and his stout resistance to them have long been famous—so famous that here is M. Gustave Flaubert, fifteen hundred years afterwards, publishing a large octavo about them, and undertaking to describe them in every particular. This volume, we confess, has been a surprise to us. Announced for publication three or four years ago, it seemed likely to be a novel of that realistic type which the author had already vigorously cultivated, with Saint Anthony and his temptation standing simply as a symbol of the argument. We opened it with the belief that we were to find, not a ragged old cenobite struggling to preserve his virtue amid Egyptian sands, but a portrait of one of the author's own contemporaries and fellow-citizens engaged in this enterprise in the heart of the French capital. M. Flaubert's strong side has not been hitherto the portrayal of resistance to temptation, and we were much in doubt as to whether the dénouement of the novel was to correspond to that of the legend; but it was very certain that, whatever the upshot, the temptation itself would be elaborately represented. So, in fact, it has been; but it is that of the dim-featured founder of monasticism, and not of a gentleman beset by our modern importunities. The work has the form of a long monologue by the distracted saint, interrupted by voluminous pictorial representations of his visions and by his imagined colloquies with the creatures who people them. We may frankly say that it strikes us as a ponderous failure; but it is an interesting failure as well, and it suggests a number of profitable reflections.

In so far as these concern M. Gustave Flaubert himself, they are decidedly melancholy. Many American readers probably have followed his career, and will readily recall it as an extraordinary example of a writer outliving his genius. There have been poets and novelists in abundance who are people of a single work, who have had their one hour of inspiration, and gracefully accept the certainty that it would never strike again. There are other careers in which a great success has been followed by a period of offensive mediocrity, and, if not confirmed, at least not flagrantly discredited. But we imagine there are few writers who have been at such extraordinary pains as M. Flaubert to undermine an apparently substantial triumph. Some fifteen years ago he published 'Madame Bovary,' a novel which, if it cannot be said exactly to have taken its place in the "standard literature" of his country, must yet have fixed itself in the memory of most readers as a revelation of what the imagination may accomplish under a powerful impulse to mirror the unmitigated realities of life. 'Madame Bovary,' we confess, has always seemed to us a great work, and capable really of being applied to educational purposes. It is an elaborate picture of vice, but it represents it as so indefeasibly commingled with misery that in a really enlightened system of education it would form exactly the volume to put into the hands of young persons in whom vicious tendencies had been distinctly perceived, and who were wavering as to which way they should let the balance fall.

The facts in 'Madame Bovary' were elaborate marvels of description, but they were also, by good luck, extremely interesting in themselves, whereas the facts in 'Salammbô,' in 'L'Education Sentimentale,' and in the perfor-

mance before us, appeal so very meagrely to our sympathy that they completely fail in their appeal to our credulity. And yet we would not for the world have had M. Flaubert's novels unwritten. Lying there before us so unmistakably still-born, they are a capital refutation of the very dogma in defence of which they appeared. The fatal charmlessness of each and all of them is an eloquent plea for the ideal. M. Flaubert's peculiar talent is the description—minute, incisive, exhaustive—of material objects, and it must be admitted that he has carried it very far. He succeeds wonderfully well in making an image, in finding and combining just the words in which the look of his object resides. The scenery and properties in his dramas are made for the occasion; they have not served in other pieces. "The sky [in St. Anthony's landscape] is red, the earth completely black; under the gusts of wind the sand-drifts rise up like shrouds and then fall down. In a gap, suddenly, pass a flight of birds in a triangular battalion, like a piece of metal, trembling only on the edges." This is a specimen, taken at random, of the author's constant appeal to observation; he would claim, doubtless, for his works that they are an unbroken tissue of observations, that this is their chief merit, and that nothing is further from his pretension than to conclude to philosophize or to moralize. He proceeds upon the assumption that these innumerable marvels of observation will hold together without the underlying moral unity of what is called a "purpose," and that the reader will proceed eagerly from point to point, stopping just sufficiently short of complete hallucination to remember the author's cleverness.

The reader has, at least, in 'La Tentation de Saint Antoine,' the satisfaction of expecting a subject combining with a good deal of chance for color a high moral interest. M. Flaubert describes, from beginning to end, the whole series of the poor hermit's visions; the undertaking implies no small imaginative energy. In one sense, it has been bravely carried out; it swarms with ingenious, audacious, and erudite detail, and leaves nothing to be desired in the way of completeness. There is generally supposed to be a certain vagueness about visions; they are things of ambiguous shapes and misty edges. But vagueness of portrayal has never been our author's failing, and St. Anthony's hallucinations under his hands become a gallery of photographs, executed with the aid of the latest improvements in the art. He is visited successively by all the religions, idolatries, superstitions, rites and ceremonies, priests and potentates, of the early world—by Nebuchadnezzar and the Queen of Sheba, the Emperor Constantine and the Pope Calixtus, the swarm of the early Christian fanatics, martyrs, and philosophers—Origen, Tertullian, Arius, Hermogenes, Ebionites and Encratites, Theodotians and Marcosians, by Helen of Troy and Apollonius of Rhodes, by the Buddha in person, by the Devil in person, by Ormuzd and Ahriman, by Diana of the Ephesians, by Cybele, Atys, Isis, by the whole company of the gods of Greece and by Venus in particular, by certain unnamable Latin deities, whom M. Flaubert not only names but dramatizes, by the figures of Luxury and Death, by the Sphinx and the Chimera, by the Pigmies and the Cynocephali, by the "Sadhuzag" and the unicorn, by all the beasts of the sea, and finally by Jesus Christ. We are not precisely given to understand how much time is supposed to roll over the head of the distracted anchorite while these heterogeneous images are passing before him, but, in spite of the fact that he generally swoons away in the *entracte*, as it were, we receive an impression that he is getting a good deal at one sitting, and that the toughest part of his famous struggle came off on a single night. To the reader who is denied the occasional refreshment of a swoon, we recommend taking up the book at considerable intervals. Some of the figures in our list are minutely described, others are briefly sketched, but all have something to say. We fancy that both as a piece of description and a piece of dramatization M. Flaubert is especially satisfied with his Queen of Sheba:

"Her dress, in golden brocade, divided regularly by furbelows of pearls, of jet, and of sapphire, compresses her waist into a narrow boddice, ornamented with applied pieces in color representing the twelve signs of the zodiac. She wears very high skates, of which one is black and spangled with silver stars, with the crescent of the moon, while the other is white, and covered with little drops in gold, with the sun in the middle. Her wide sleeves, covered with emeralds and with the feathers of birds, expose the nakedness of her little round arm, ornamented at the wrist by a bracelet of ebony; and her hands, laden with rings, terminate in nails so pointed that the ends of her fingers look almost like needles. A flat gold chain, passing under her chin, ascends beside her cheeks, rolls in a spiral around her hair, which is powdered with blue powder, then, falling, grazes her shoulder and comes and fastens itself on her bosom in a scorpion in diamonds, which thrusts out its tongue between her breasts. Two great blood pearls drag down her ears. The edges of her eyelids are painted black. She has on her left cheek-bone a natural brown mole, and she breathes, opening her mouth, as if her boddice hurt her. She shakes, as she walks, a green parasol surrounded with gilt bells, and twelve little woolly-headed negroes carry the long train of her dress, held at the end by a monkey, who occasionally lifts it up. She says: 'Ah, bel ermite, bel ermite! mon cœur défaille!'"

This is certainly a "realistic" Queen of Sheba, and Nebuchadnezzar.

* 'La Tentation de Saint Antoine. Par Gustave Flaubert.' Paris: Charpentier; New York: F. W. Christern. 1874.

zar is almost equally so. Going on from figure to figure and scene to scene in this bewildering panorama, we ask ourselves exactly what it is that M. Flaubert has proposed to accomplish. Not a prose-poem from the saint's own moral point of view, with his spiritual sufferings and vagaries for its episode, and his ultimate expulsion of all profane emotions for its dénouement; for St. Anthony throughout remains the dimmest of shadows, and his commentary upon his hallucination is meagre and desultory. Not, on the other hand, a properly historical presentation of the various types he evokes, for fancy is called in at every turn to supplement the scanty testimony of history. What is M. Flaubert's historic evidence for the mole on the Queen of Sheba's cheek and the blue powder in her hair? He has simply wished to be tremendously pictorial, and the opportunity for spiritual analysis has been the last thing in his thoughts. It is matter of regret that a writer with the pluck and energy to grapple with so pregnant a theme should have been so indifferent to its most characteristic side. It is probable that, after M. Flaubert's big volume, we shall not have, in literature, for a long time, any more 'Temptations of St. Anthony'; and yet there is obviously a virtue in the subject which has by no means been exhausted. Tremendously pictorial M. Flaubert has certainly succeeded in being, and we stand amazed at his indefatigable ingenuity. He has accumulated a mass of curious learning; he has interfused it with a mass of still more curious conjecture; and he has resolved the whole into a series of pictures which, considering the want of models and precedents, may be said to be very handsomely executed. But what, the reader wonders, has been his inspiration, his motive, his *souffle*, as the French say? Of any abundant degree of imagination we perceive little in the work. Here and there we find a touch of something like poetry, as in the scene of the Christian martyrs huddled in one of the vaults of the circus, and watching through the bars of the opposite vault the lions and tigers to whom they are about to be introduced. Here and there is a happy dramatic turn in the talk of the hermit's visionary interlocutor or a vague approach to a "situation" in the attitude of the saint. But for the most part M. Flaubert's picturesque is a strangely artificial and cold-blooded picturesque—abounding in the grotesque and the repulsive, the abnormal and the barely conceivable, but seeming to have attained to it all by infinite labor, ingenuity, and research—never by one of the fine intuitions of a joyous and generous invention. It is all hard, inanimate, superficial, and inexpressibly disagreeable. When the author has a really beautiful point to treat—as the assembly of the Greek deities fading and paling away in the light of Christianity—he becomes singularly commonplace and ineffective.

His book being, with its great effort and its strangely absent charm, the really painful failure it seems to us, it would not have been worth while to call attention to it if it were not that it pointed to more things than the author's own deficiencies. It seems to us to throw a tolerably vivid light on the present condition of the French literary intellect. M. Flaubert and his contemporaries have pushed so far the education of the senses and the cultivation of the grotesque in literature and the arts that it has left them morally stranded and helpless. In the perception of the materially curious, in fantastic refinement of taste and marked ingenuity of expression, they seem to us now to have reached the limits of the possible. Behind M. Flaubert stands a whole society of aesthetic *raffinés*, demanding stronger and stronger spices in its intellectual diet. But we doubt whether he or any of his companions can permanently satisfy their public, for the simple reason that the human mind, even in indifferent health, does after all need to be *nourished*, and thrives but scantily on a regimen of pigments and sauces. It needs sooner or later—to prolong our metaphor—to detect a body-flavor, and we shall be very much surprised if it ever detects one in 'La Tentation de Saint Antoine.'

THE MAGAZINES FOR JUNE.

A WRITER who appears to have picked up from personal experience a certain amount of knowledge about various kinds of Southern fish makes a short article in the June *Galaxy*. He gives the good news that the pompano (hitherto one of the almost sinful delights of New Orleans), "the most delicious and exquisite morsel ever taken from the water, fresh or salt, which was until quite recently supposed to be confined to the Gulf of Mexico, has drifted northward within the last few years, and is said to have been taken off the Capes of Virginia." So that it may soon be in our Northern markets. He adds that several other kinds of fish, once peculiar to the Gulf, are now to be seen in the New York market, as the bonito—a fish of little or no value, but to the unskilled eye nearly resembling the handsome and excellent Spanish mackerel, and perhaps for that reason, perhaps for its cheapness, often purchased, poor as he is. Other fishes of which the writer tells are the porpoise, the black-snapper of Pensacola Bay, and a

nondescript monster, unnamed, of which he says that, so far as he knows, science makes no mention of it, but that he has heard of it from sportsmen who shoot ducks in and about Long Island Sound. The coot, his informant asserts, make their appearance in great numbers early in the autumn, and with them arrives a shapeless, hideous-looking marine creature, weighing from sixty to eighty pounds, with a huge head, an enormous mouth, and a voracious appetite. It swims noiselessly into the midst of a flock of ducks, and, quietly seizing one, swallows it without an effort. But either in his greed forgetting discretion, or having been, in the interest of the coot, originally left destitute of self-restraint, he is apt to swallow so many of the birds that their buoyant feathers prevent his sinking below the surface, and he readily falls a prey to the sportsman.

Of the porpoise the *Galaxy* writer says that he is a fish full of cunning; and in proof of this assertion he shows that when enclosed in a seine, a porpoise will follow the cork-life till it touches the shore, then retracing his course will follow the line to the other shore-end, and having satisfied himself that he cannot otherwise reach deep water, he deliberately goes to a point at some little distance from the middle of the bight of the seine, swims toward it with great swiftness, and often clears it by a leap of six or ten feet into the air. One species of porpoise, known to sailors as the herring-hog, our author has seen to leap even twenty feet into the air. The fish popularly known as the black-snapper appears to be very sagacious, and perhaps he is also benevolent, though we do not make out certainly whether the conclusion of the following incident instead of illustrating the benevolence of the snapper may not rather prove indignant cannibalism on his part. The fish is extremely difficult to hook. He and his friends will rush swiftly towards the bait as soon as they hear it dropped into the water, but on reaching it they pause, examine it carefully, and perhaps two or three of the oldest and most sedate trace the line with their noses from the hook up to the surface of the water, and after these fathers of the school have passed adverse judgment and "condemned the rations," not one of the others will so much as look at the bait. Our author, after repeated experiments, made sure that he had devised a scheme by which he could outwit any snapper, old or young. At low tide a well-baited hook was placed where the fish were accustomed to feed, and the line was for some yards covered thick with earth. At the end of the covering it extended, so delicate as to be almost invisible, to the hand of the fisherman. With the tide the fish came in great numbers, and the younger were evidently eager to gorge, but the elder for some time restrained them. By-and-by, however, one young fellow made a rush and took it; but no sooner was it only too evident that he was caught fast than the bigger fish "pounced upon him, and he was torn incontinently from the hook," and from that time forth no device enabled our fisherman to take another snapper.

The production of "Lohengrin" on the operatic stage of this city has furnished a topic to more than one of the magazines, *Harper's* having something graceful to say in the "Easy Chair," and *Scribner's* also speaking of the new entertainment, but the *Galaxy* giving up to the subject more space than any of the others. We imagine the verdict of the music-hearing community to be, on the whole, that which is rendered by the *Galaxy* writers—one anonymous, one Mr. Richard Grant White; but we must avow incompetence and inability to speak with any authority. Whether in obstinately fighting his way to the front the strenuous composer has proved his right to go up high among the really great is a question to which his present admirers will allow but one answer. Meanwhile, there is luckily a good deal of pleasure to be got from him, whether or no he has succeeded in his modest attempt fully to utilize and even to fuse all the arts.

In *Lippincott's* "Monthly Gossip" there is a short letter which shows how much further in the way of criticism a little ordinarily careful observation may go than many labored volumes. The letter relates to Mr. and Mrs. John Dickens, and throws more light on the nature and origin of their distinguished son's gifts than many a thousand pages that have been written. The writer is a Mrs. Davey, who became acquainted with Mr. and Mrs. Dickens in 1850—the two, in fact, living in her house, where their son had placed them. Mr. Charles Dickens's hot and often ungovernable temper he may very well have derived from his father:

"I remember on one occasion some private theatricals were given at the Saint James's Theatre, in which Charles Dickens took the principal character and old Mr. Dickens was appointed bill-distributor for the evening. Charles had given strict orders that no one was to be admitted behind the scenes. The elder Dickens, returning to the green-room, was surprised and indignant to see a man, as he thought, standing at the other end of the apartment. His blood boiled up at once, and he flew at him. His anger increased at seeing the figure advance toward him, and he rushed up to it and struck out with all his might—hitting a looking-glass with such violence that he had sore knuckles for some days afterwards. The resemblance between old Mr. D. and Mr. Micawber was very slight." Mrs. Dickens, the mother, "possessed an extraordinary sense of the ludicrous, and her power of imitation was

something quite astonishing. On entering a room she almost unconsciously took an inventory of its contents; and if anything happened to strike her as out of place or ludicrous, she would afterwards describe it in the quaintest possible manner. In like manner, she noted the personal peculiarities of her friends and acquaintances. She had also a fine vein of pathos, and could bring tears to the eyes of her listeners when narrating some sad event. . . . I am of opinion that a great deal of Dickens's genius was inherited from his mother. He possessed from her a keen appreciation of the droll and of the pathetic, as also considerable dramatic talent. Mrs. Dickens has often sent my sisters and myself into uncontrollable fits of laughter by her funny sayings and inimitable mimicry. Charles was decidedly fond of her, and always treated her respectfully and kindly."

'Some Unpublished Letters of S. T. Coleridge' are dull reading, and we should think of no value biographically. All this phase of Coleridge's character has already been fully, not to say diffusely and tediously, exhibited in other just such letters. "A Visit to a Bonze" is a very readable account of a few hours' life with a Japanese priest—a gentleman who eighteen years ago sold his bedding, borrowed two swords from a friend of his, an armorer, who then lived in Pure Water Street, and was on the point of setting out for the sea-coast to kill Commodore Perry, as being a hairy barbarian who ate snakes and earth-worms. But the daimio's officer hearing of his reverence's intent, forbade the expedition, and soon after informed Kun and the rest of the people that the barbarian ships had been driven away. At the time when our writer made his call Kun was of excellent dispositions as regards Americans, and freely ate, drank, and even talked with them—talking more, in fact, the more he drank.

The *Catholic World* has the second part of Mr. De Vere's metrical romance told in successive songs, entitled "Antar and Zara," which goes on very prosperously. And the reader may be pleased to read "A Glimpse of the Green Isle," which is as lively, and at the same time unforced and sensible, as magazine sketches of travel usually are not. It seems to be a glimpse not only of the Green Isle, but (so to speak) of a fully Americanized, even Far-Westernized, native of the Green Isle, who after many years of absence pays a visit to the country of his birth. "The Female Religious of America" is a semi-statistical paper which we dare say may be found useful. We suspect, however, that the writer needs to be cautioned about his use of figures. For example, he talks about "over" 20,000 children in the care of the various sorts of Roman Catholic Sisters in the diocese of New York, besides "some" 3,000 inmates of orphan asylums, etc.; about "nearly" 10,000 children under tuition in the Philadelphia diocese, "in addition" to certain orphans; and about the children under tuition in the Cincinnati diocese as being "greater in proportion" to the total Catholic population than is the case either in New York or in Philadelphia. He then goes on "to take these three dioceses as a criterion"—one of them expressly stated by himself to be abnormal—and to find by guess that in the United States there are ("nearly") "300,000 girls daily receiving at the hands of the Sisters of various congregations a free, thorough, and practical Catholic education." Surely these are not figures of the sort on which to place dependence; and for that and other reasons this surely is no way in which to use figures.

Scribner's has nothing this month to call for special remark, if we except Mr. Edward King's description of the miseries of South Carolina. That is very full and impressive, and the other portions of his article are highly readable. We do not know how he learned that rice is ever flooded with salt-water. For the rest, the magazine is of its usual merit, and the same is to be said of *Harper's*, of which *Scribner's* has shown itself no unworthy rival in the quest for wide popularity. "Our Nearest Neighbor" is an illustrated article in *Harper's*, treating of Mexico, possibly (as has been suggested) to the great chagrin of the Canadians, who wish that the Dominion, not Mexico, should be regarded as nearest to us. We dare say, however, that the Dominion will put up with the slight. "Collecting Salmon Spawn in Maine" is another illustrated paper in *Harper's*, and so is an old-fashioned article on Joseph Rodman Drake, which to many old New Yorkers will be agreeable in its reminiscences.

The *Atlantic* begins in this number a new series of sketches by Mr. Robert Dale Owen, and there seems to be no difference in point of interest between the new series as here visible and the old, which found more than usual favor. Another new series of sketches which bids fair to be both readable and, in its degree, of political usefulness, is that begun by Mr. George Cary Eggleston. Mr. Eggleston is a Virginian, and thirteen years ago was a secessionist in arms. What he undertakes to do is to describe the events and humors of which he was then a witness, and in this first paper his subject is the mustering in of volunteers in the first days of the warlike excitement. First and foremost, however, he enters into an explanation of the mental attitude of Virginians towards the Union and towards the proposed secession, and we do not see that he does otherwise than give an account of it as veracious as it is clear.

Carrying us back to that same time, the *Atlantic* has an almost indecently pathetic story called "Larcom's Little Chap," by a writer who apparently has enough in him to enable him, if a false taste would suffer it, to dispense with the actual presence of the corpse while narrating his story to the listener. Indecency is also very nearly the word for the gentleman's work who writes about his experience with morphine. When such things are made the means of showing us splendors of imagination, as in the case of the English opium-eater, it would indeed be unavailing, and probably wrong, to object to their entrance into literature. But we can see no good reason why a dull man and a poor writer should be allowed, between the covers of a literary magazine, to detail his bodily ailments, about which, after all, there is nothing specially new, and to all the world how near he was killing himself by indulgence in morphine, and how, after leaving off its use, and then going back to it, and then leaving off again, and then going back again, and then taking up his residence in an inebriate asylum, and then coming out and falling again into his vicious habit, he finally effected a cure by taking to Bourbon whiskey. For our own part, we are much inclined to believe that, apart from the whiskey recommendation, such articles as this of Mr. Ledyard's lead to harm rather than good.

A Dictionary of Roman and Greek Antiquities, with nearly 2,000 engravings on wood from ancient originals, illustrative of the industrial arts and social life of the Greeks and Romans. By Anthony Rich, B.A., sometime of Caius College, Cambridge. Third Edition, revised and improved. (New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1874.)—This book has been before the public so many years that a notice of it now may seem a little late. But as the author announces in the preface that "it has attained the permanent form and substance it will ever receive from himself," a word of final comment is not uncalled for. The importance of pictorial illustrations in the study of the classics can hardly be overrated; and it has lately been recognized in rather a novel way: a German scholar, Albert Müller, inspired, perhaps, by Hans Andersen's story of 'The Hardy Tin Soldier,' has published—if the word may be used of such a thing—a collection of fourteen hardy little Roman tin-soldiers, to illustrate the arms and equipments of the Roman soldier in the Imperial age. Undeniably, Mr. Rich's dictionary is a most valuable contribution to illustrative literature; and yet it is a pity that this final edition should not have been brought nearer to the standard of the times. Tiberius's maxim, "*plures facilius munia sociatis laboribus exsecutores*," is as true of dictionary-making as of government, and a judicious revision by one or two competent assistants would have made the dictionary much better than it is. Among other things, we are struck with the repetition of the same illustrations time and time again. Thus the same bedstead is given no less than four times, under the heads *clinopius*, *ceruical*, *culcita*, and *lectulus*; another bedstead likewise four times, under the heads *lectus*, *torus*, *scabellum*, and *pluteus*; the same stern of a vessel is given under *propugnaculum*, *ordo*, and *tutela*; *cirrus*, *fimbria*, and *mappa* have the same figure. On p. 59 there is a picture of a fisherman; the same cut appears again on p. 327, where over half a column is devoted to the word *hamiota*. The author appears to consider *hamiota* a respectable and serious Latin word, in regular standing, whereas it is only a grotesque nickname for *piscator*, hastily tossed off by Plautus, a kind of hybrid formed by clapping a Greek ending on the Latin word *hamus*—*hamiota* like *stratiota*. As a mere nickname *hamiota* is no more entitled to a place in a dictionary of antiquities than *glandionida* "a son of Ham," or *pernonida* "a scion of the house of Bacon," would be entitled to a place in a biographical dictionary. On the same page, by the way, the eye lights on "*hama* : a pail or bucket used in the wine-cellar. (Plaut. *Mil.* iii. 2. 42); by firemen and others in extinguishing conflagrations (Juv. xiv. 305; Plin. *Ep.* x. 35, 2)." In an age of praying-bands and virtue, we can well afford to look down on the Romans for many reasons. But let us not do them the injustice of supposing that they used fire-buckets in their potatoes. The word really used by Plautus is *aula*, not *hama*, and *hama* is only a conjecture of Turnebus, unnecessary, and, in fact, metrically impossible. To return to the repetition of engravings: there is of course no objection to it in the world, and it really saves trouble in turning over the pages; but a judicious system of cross-references might save many pages, and give an opportunity for the insertion of much new matter without increasing the size of the volume, if it is any object to keep the volume small. For example, we have, under *amphitheatrum*, a view of the amphitheatre of Pompeii in its existing state—given in more than one place—and a section and elevation of the amphitheatre at Pola. But we look in vain for the painting, found not very long since at Pompeii, representing the free fight between the Nuceria and Pompeii men. This most curious and spirited picture, which seems drawn—if the chronology only allowed it—by some "own special artist" on purpose to illustrate Tacitus's story of the fight, gives a more

vivid impression of ancient life than pages of architectural sections and elevations. The singular perspective displays the amphitheatre and all its parts; we can see the awnings which figure so extensively as stock-attractions in the Pompeii amphitheatre-bill—*ucla erunt*, "there will be an awning"—and there is just enough suggestion of side-shows to remind us that the Circassian Lady, the Living Skeleton, and the three-card-monté of the modern circus are not without their ancient representatives.

If another edition of the dictionary should be called for, the originals of the illustrations ought to be indicated in a more exact and systematic way. Perfect accuracy is never expected in encyclopaedic works; but one great step toward accuracy is made when the compiler is required to give book, chapter, and page distinctly. The loose phrases found on every page of this dictionary, "from a fictile vase," "from an engraved gem," "from an antique bronze," are only suited to dilettanti and popular books. To give an instance of what this looseness leads to, we have represented on page 650 the well-known theatre-ticket said to have been found at Pompeii, admitting the bearer to a representation of the 'Casina' of Plautus. This ticket, if genuine, is unique; it is the only ticket known which designates the seat to which the bearer is entitled. We say "if genuine"; for, though the ticket is admitted into Orelli's 'Inscriptions,' and has been tacitly accepted as genuine by the very high authority of Ritschl, we feel convinced that if Mr. Rich had felt called on to say where the original was, instead of saying vaguely, after his fashion, "from an original found at Pompeii," he would have hesitated to admit it into the book. This alleged theatre-ticket is not, as far as we are aware, to be found in any known collection. Orelli merely refers to Romanelli; and Romanelli's account does not indicate that he ever saw the ticket. In all probability, the *tessera theatralis* is a forgery.

Besides the more accurate citation of references, another change is greatly needed in this book. The antiquated spelling of the Latin words is not only distasteful to the eye but a positive inconvenience, as it puts a great many words out of their proper alphabetical order. Still, with all its imperfections, Mr. Rich's dictionary is a handy little book, and has the making of a much better book.

First Steps in General History. A Suggestive Outline. By Arthur Gilman, M.A., Author of 'First Steps in English Literature,' 'Seven Historic Ages,' etc. (New York: Hurd & Houghton. 1874.)—The special object to which Mr. Gilman's little book is adapted is instruction in the histories of the several countries of the world. A general view like Mr. Freeman's he does not aim to give; his book may therefore be used either before or after Mr. Freeman's, according to the theory of each teacher. A second feature is, that it is intended especially to suggest and guide, and with this view is made to contain far more detail, in the way of names and dates, than any class could advantageously learn; and is provided with a copious and excellent bibliography, an admirable feature of which is its fulness in books which are not technically histories—such as Kingsley's 'Hypatia' and Emerson's 'English Traits.' We notice that Froude is omitted, while Meline is given. We would suggest that Miss Yonge's 'Cameos from English History,' Creasy's 'History of England,' and Häusser's 'History of the Reformation' should be added. The execution of the work has many excellences, especially a constant and most laudable effort to present history in a light at once vivid and earnest. We find, however, an astonishing number of misprints and small errors which make a careful revision indispensably necessary. For example: page 4, where the six Oriental monarchies are enumerated, the Chaldean and Babylonian, which should stand respectively first and third in the list, have changed places; p. 77, a considerable paragraph is devoted to the Fourth Crusade, without any mention of its only important result, the Latin Empire of Constantinople; in the table following, p. 80, the death of Raphael is put in 1564 (for 1520); the House of Austria in 1437 (for 1438), Pius VI. is called Pius IV., Weinsberg is spelled Wiensburg

(and on p. 115 it is twice spelled Weinsburg); p. 114, Pascal II. is called III.; p. 121, among the princes of the Empire are enumerated six archbishops and four electors, without any intimation that three of the archbishops were electors (omitting also the Archbishop of Prague); p. 148, the Burgundians are put in northeastern France instead of southeastern; p. 149, the Visigoths are called Aryan (as they were, indeed) when Arian is meant; p. 152, we find Charles IV. for Charles III.; p. 153 the only Lothaire of France is called Lothaire IV.; p. 174, we find Catholicism for Calvinism; p. 230, no account is made of the share of France in the closing years of the Thirty Years' War; p. 250, in the Genealogical Table, Stephen is put as a son of Henry I.; p. 339, Dr. Witherspoon is called President of Columbia College, instead of Princeton. These errors we have found upon a very cursory examination of the book; nevertheless, as it has many merits, it may be heartily recommended after it has been carefully corrected.

The Universe and the Coming Transits. By Richard A. Proctor. (London: Longmans; Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co. 1874.)—**The Expanse of Heaven.** By R. A. Proctor. (New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1874.)—Among Mr. Proctor's numerous astronomical speculations, his views of the structure of the stellar universe hold the first rank in scientific interest and importance. The essential elements of his theory are briefly these: It has been generally supposed that the stars visible with our telescopes are for the most part scattered at random through an immense extent of space, with a general approach to uniformity, and that the great differences of their apparent magnitudes arise principally from their great diversities of distances. He maintains, on the contrary, that the stars are for the most part divided into irregular groups, streams, and clusters; that these groups are not at very varied distances; that the smaller stars generally belong to the same groups with the large ones among which we see them; and that, consequently, the differences of apparent magnitude are for the most part real. These views have been vigorously maintained in a number of articles and essays published during the last six years, which are now collected in the first part of the book before us. There can be no basis for an authoritative decision between these two views; but it must be admitted that many of Mr. Proctor's reasons are very cogent, and that his views are well worthy the consideration of all interested in the problem of the structure of the universe.

'The Expanse of Heaven' is a collection of pleasing little essays well calculated to instruct and interest the young—a kind of book, in fact, which we should like to see in Sunday-school libraries to take the place of the rapid literature which so abounds there.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Authors.—Titles.	Publishers.—Prices.
Aldrich (T. B.), <i>Prudence Palfrey</i>	(J. R. Osgood & Co.) \$1 50
Codman (J.), <i>The Mormon Country</i>	(U. S. Pub. Co.) 1 50
Coleridge (Sara), <i>Phantasmion</i>	(Roberts Bros.)
Church (Rev. R. W.), <i>Sacred Poetry of Early Religions</i>	(Macmillan & Co.) 0 50
Dalton (Rev. T.), <i>Rules and Examples in Algebra, Part 1</i>	(Macmillan & Co.) 1 00
Life and Doctrine of St. Catherine of Genoa.....	(Cath. Pub. Soc.) 2 00
Maudsley (Dr. H.), <i>Sex in Mind and in Education</i> , swd.....	(James Miller) 0 25
Orcutt (H.), <i>The Parents' Manual</i>	(Thompson, Brown & Co.) 1 25
Rusling (Gen. J. F.), <i>Across America</i>	(Sheldon & Co.) 2 00
Sea and Shore: Poems.....	(Roberts Bros.)
Scharf (Col. J. T.), <i>The Chronicles of Baltimore</i>	(Turnbull Bros.)
Thaxter (Celia), <i>Poems</i>	(Hurd & Houghton) 1 50
Tilton (T.), <i>Tempest-Tossed: a Tale</i>	(Sheldon & Co.) 1 75
Verne (J.), <i>Meridians</i>	(Scribner, Armstrong & Co.) 0 75
Willmshurst (Z.), <i>Winter of the Heart, and Other Poems</i>	(Dodd & Mead)
Webster (Augusta), <i>Yu-Po-Ya's Lute: Poetry</i>	(Macmillan & Co.) 1 00
Wright (J.), <i>Attie Primer</i>	(Macmillan & Co.) 1 50

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These costs include first-class Steamship and Railway fares the whole journey, meals and accommodations in accordance with the usual customs of the countries visited, and many other privileges and accommodations, details of which are given in the PROGRAMME, together with particulars of the entire journey. This Programme is sent free by post.

The following is a brief abstract of the itinerary:

The whole Party together, under Mr. THOMAS COOK, will leave New York June 30; visit Giant's Causeway; Glasgow; spend a day in the Highland Lochs; another at Fingal's Cave; steamer and carriages to Ben Nevis, the highest peak in Great Britain; Inverness, by Caledonian Canal; rail to Killiecrankie; walk, carriages, and rail through Pass to Pitlochrie, Dunkeld, Perth; two days in Edinburgh; a day between Melrose, Abbotsford, Carlisle, Leeds, Sheffield, and Leicester; four days in London.

From London the Divisions proceed as follows:

1st Division.—Nine days in and around Paris, Versailles, etc., by carriages; London again, two days; Glasgow; return to New York about August 20.

\$350 gold, includes fares, hotels, omnibuses, porters, guides, etc.

2d Division.—Down the Thames; Antwerp; Brussels; Cologne; the Rhine; Wiesbaden, past Bonn, the Drachenfels, Remagen, White Tower, Coblenz, Ehrenbreitstein, Statzenfels, Boppard, St. Goar, the Bingerloch, Bingen, Lurley, Rüdesheim, Biebrich, etc.; rail to Heidelberg, Baden Baden, Bale, Strasburg, Lucerne; boat to Alpnach; carriage over Brunig Pass of Bernese Oberland; boat to Interlaken, Thun; rail to Berne, Lausanne, Martigny; carriages or mules over Tête-Noire or Col de Balm to Chamounix; diligence to Geneva; rail to Paris, five days; London three days; Glasgow; arriving at New York about September 10.

\$450 gold, includes fares, hotels, etc.

3d Division.—Thames; Antwerp; Brussels; Cologne; Mayence; Munich; Innsbruck; by Brenner Pass to Verona; Venice two days; Florence; about Rome in carriages under special guidance of Mr. Shakespeare Wood, artist and archaeologist; Pisa; Turin; Milan; St. Gothard Pass; Lucerne two days; Berne (Freiburg or Lausanne optional); Geneva two days; Paris five days; London; Glasgow; New York about September 24.

\$550 gold, includes fares, hotels, carriages in Rome, gondolas in Venice, guides, etc., etc.

Additional Tickets *ad libitum*.

Unused Tickets exchanged for other Tickets at par, or repurchased at 10 per cent. discount.

Ocean return Tickets good for six months, and may be extended to one year on payment of \$10 additional.

Last Summer's Vacation Tour of 145 persons gathered from 28 States of the Union was accomplished without accident, illness, or regrettable circumstance of any kind, amid mutual congratulations.

This Second Vacation Party now forming appears likely to embrace 200 persons. If more than a complement for the still larger and finer steamer BOLIVIA apply, the ship will not be crowded, but the excess will be booked by other steamers. There will be no delay in sailing. State-Rooms and Seats at Table are assigned in the order of receipt of applications. A deposit of \$50 currency is required from each Tourist at the time of application.

It is tolerably well known that Cook's Excursion Prices bear a similar relation to ordinary Travelling Expenses that wholesale usually bears to

retail; also, that the facilities furnished are the best that exist—better than most travellers can find for themselves, especially in unfamiliar countries.

Mr. Cook has been engaged in the business of managing tours for thirty-five years. The firm has Branches and Agencies all over the travelled world, in charge of its net-work of communications. They control so large a part of the ordinary means of travel in the Old World, and their trained guides have so long served the travelling public, that they are not only honored with the most distinguished patronage, but their patrons are also everywhere received with distinguished consideration:—for examples, the public reception of last Summer's Vacation Party at Edinburgh, and the reception recently of the English Tourists at Washington.

TRAVELLING ARRANGEMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES.—Mr. Thomas Cook is now in this country for the double purpose of escorting a party of English Tourists here, and of returning with the Second Vacation Party of Americans. In *Cook's Excursionist* for June he gives a pretty full account of the travelling arrangements of the firm in the Old World, embracing the regular and permanent service of railways, steamships, omnibuses, diligences, carriages, mules, camels, hotels, guides, dragomen, etc.—in short, whatever is necessary to secure safety and comfort, even among the Bedouins of the Desert; and he finds their American travelling arrangements advancing towards similar completeness. The same number contains programmes of more than 1,200 Excursions to all parts of the United States and Canada, as well as to Europe and around the World, showing the reduced fares and expenses. Why should the people of the Eastern and Middle States pay more for a trip to the Yosemite Valley than to Naples? American railway and hotel managers are beginning to see their advantage in lower prices for larger patronage. Under the arrangements of Messrs. Cook, Son & Jenkins, our Western country has already begun to attract English travellers. Another party will leave England early in Autumn to view the wonders of the West.

IRELAND.—Cook, Son & Jenkins's tickets embrace every railway and coach-line in Ireland, first or second class. Reduction 20 per cent.

SCOTLAND.—Tickets embrace all points of interest.

ENGLAND.—There is no place where one cannot travel to advantage on Cook's tickets.

HOLLAND.—BELGIUM.—RHINE.—Cook's are the only tickets permitting the holders to stop at their convenience at such places as Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Antwerp, Brussels, Aix-la-Chapelle, Cologne, Bonn, Coblenz, Bingen, Mayence, Worms, Heidelberg, Baden Baden, etc., etc.

SWITZERLAND is completely covered with Cook's Tourist Arrangements. Every Alpine Pass and Route is shown on their Programmes.

ITALIAN TOURS are 100 in number—reduction 30 to 45 per cent.

EGYPT.—Messrs. Cook, Son & Jenkins are appointed by the Khedive Sole Agents for Passenger Traffic by Steam on the Nile—Cairo to Assuan, 600 miles.

PALESTINE.—Over 700 ladies and gentlemen have visited the Holy Land on Cook's tickets, Mr. Alexander Howard, local manager. The American Topographical Corps are now there completing a nine months' sojourn.

AROUND THE WORLD.—The arrangements are twofold: 1st, Fares only, for individuals or parties travelling without an escort, who provide themselves with all extras, \$950 gold; 2d, Personally conducted tours, including all necessary expenses.

PERSONALLY CONDUCTED TOURS are constantly being arranged and leaving New York and London for certain definite and prescribed Tours, in which one sum is quoted to include all necessary expenses.

COOK'S HOTEL COUPONS are available at nearly 300 first-class hotels, securing best accommodations at regular and reduced prices.

CREDITS.—Deposits of patrons received and credits issued, available at all agencies, without charge.

COOK'S EXCURSIONIST FOR JUNE contains the latest proposals, as well as the latest information on the matter of Summer Travel everywhere. Sent by mail on receipt of price, 10 cents.

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THE WEEK IN TRADE AND FINANCE.

NEW YORK, June 1, 1874.

THE resignation of Secretary Richardson and the appointment of Mr. Bristow in the place of the former have created no especial interest on the Street beyond raising the enquiry as to who Mr. Bristow is, which no one seems to be able to answer. However, the new Secretary has the best wishes of everybody, and he will be incompetent indeed if he fails to give as little satisfaction as the late incumbent.

Money on call has remained easy at 2 to 4 per cent., the supply far exceeding the demand. Commercial paper of the best grade is in request at very low rates, which we quote 4 to 6 per cent. The market for paper has been dull, owing to the exceedingly small amount offering.

Cable advices report a gain of £144,000 in the bullion of the Bank of England for the week ending on Thursday last, and a reduction in the minimum of discount from 4 to 3½ per cent.

The weekly statement of the New York Clearing-house banks was again favorable; the statement was made up on Friday, Saturday being a legal holiday. The following shows the changes in the different items:

	May 23.	May 29.	Differences.
Loans.....	\$282,814,400	\$290,558,100	Dec... \$2,256,300
Specie.....	26,022,300	25,517,400	Dec... 504,900
Legal tenders.....	59,853,400	61,456,700	Inc... 1,603,300
Deposits.....	234,243,300	232,404,300	Dec... 1,839,000
Circulation.....	26,800,900	26,727,500	Dec... 73,400

The following shows the relation between the total reserve and the total liabilities:

	May 23.	May 29.	Differences.
Specie.....	\$26,022,300	\$25,517,400	Dec... \$504,900
Legal tenders.....	59,853,400	61,456,700	Inc... 1,603,300
Total reserve.....	\$85,875,700	\$86,974,100	Inc... \$1,098,400
Deposits.....	234,243,300	232,404,300	Dec... 1,839,000
Circulation.....	26,800,900	26,727,500	Dec... 73,400
Total liabilities.....	\$261,044,200	\$259,131,800	Dec... \$1,912,400
25 per cent. reserve.....	65,261,050	64,782,950	Dec... 478,100
Excess over 25 per cent. reserve.....	20,614,650	22,191,150	Inc... 1,576,500

The stock market during the week was somewhat stronger in tone, although the fluctuations, with the exception of a further advance in Adams Express, were not wide. This stronger feeling was due partly to the purchases made by a few operators who had been "short of the market," which of itself was sufficient to start prices upward, and partly to the purchases of the small traders in the Exchange, who are always ready to go with the tide, and did so this week when it became evident that larger operators than themselves were buyers. Adams Express advanced to 109½ from 105½, the price on Saturday of the previous week, the higher quotation drawing out very little stock. The chief event of the week was the election for directors of the Pacific Mail S. S. Co., the competition being between two of the old directors representing the Gould interest, and two gentlemen nominated by the "bond fide stockholders" at a meeting held for that purpose two days before the election. The Gould men were elected, that ticket receiving the votes on something over 100,000 shares of stock; the "stockholders' ticket" receiving the votes on about 65,000 out of 200,000 shares representing the capital of the Company.

The death of Mr. J. Edgar Thomson, President of the Pennsylvania R.

R. Co., on Thursday last, created a good deal of excitement in Philadelphia, where the stock of this Company is dealt in. The decline in the stock which followed the announcement of it was by no means severe, considering all that had been said concerning his connection with the affairs of the Company, the price falling from 48 to 47, and subsequently rallying to 48½. Mr. Thomas A. Scott will without doubt be elected to the presidency of the road, and Mr. George B. Roberts, the present second vice-president, will probably fill Mr. Scott's position.

The following shows the highest and lowest sales of the leading stocks at the Stock Exchange for the week ending Saturday, May 29, 1874:

	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
N. Y. C. & H. R.....	98 98½	98½ 98½	97½ 98½	98 98½	98 98½	98½ 98½
Lake Shore.....	75½ 76½	75½ 76½	74½ 75½	74½ 75½	74½ 75½	74½ 75½
Erie.....	35½ 36½	35½ 36½	34½ 35½	34½ 35½	34½ 35½	34½ 35½
Union Pacific.....	24½ 25½	24½ 25½	23½ 24½	23½ 24½	23½ 24½	23½ 24½
Chl. & N. W.....	40½ 41½	40½ 41½	39½ 40½	39½ 40½	39½ 40½	39½ 40½
Do. pfd.....	59½ 60½	59½ 60½	58½ 59½	58½ 59½	58½ 59½	58½ 59½
N. J. Central.....	105½ 106½	105½ 106½	104½ 105½	104½ 105½	104½ 105½	104½ 105½
Rock Island.....	96½ 97½	96½ 97½	95½ 96½	95½ 96½	95½ 96½	95½ 96½
Mil. & St. Paul.....	33½ 34½	33½ 34½	32½ 33½	32½ 33½	32½ 33½	32½ 33½
Do. pfd.....	54½ 55½	54½ 55½	53½ 54½	53½ 54½	53½ 54½	53½ 54½
Wabash.....	36½ 37½	36½ 37½	35½ 36½	35½ 36½	35½ 36½	35½ 36½
D. L. & W.....	108½ 109½	108½ 109½	107½ 108½	107½ 108½	107½ 108½	107½ 108½
O. & M.....	24½ 25½	24½ 25½	23½ 24½	23½ 24½	23½ 24½	23½ 24½
C. C. & I. C.....	19½ 20½	19½ 20½	18½ 19½	18½ 19½	18½ 19½	18½ 19½
W. U. Tel.....	72½ 73½	72½ 73½	71½ 72½	71½ 72½	71½ 72½	71½ 72½
Pacific Mail.....	42½ 43½	42½ 43½	41½ 42½	41½ 42½	41½ 42½	41½ 42½

Legal Holiday.

The Government bond market has been steady on a fair amount of business, principally for home account. In the London market, prices have improved a fraction by reason of the reduction of the bank rate. The improvement there, however, seems to have excited no demand for bonds here for foreign account. The market closed this evening steady at the following quotations:

U. S. 6's of 1881.....	121½ @ 122	U. S. 5-20, 1867.....	120½ @ 120½
U. S. 5-20, 1862.....	115½ @ 115½	U. S. 5-20, 1868.....	120½ @ 120½
U. S. 5-20, 1864.....	117½ @ 117½	U. S. 5's, 10-40.....	114½ @ 114½
U. S. 5-20, 1865, May and Nov. 118	@ 118	U. S. 5's of 1881.....	115½ @ 115½
U. S. 5-20, 1865, Jan. and July. 120½	@ 120½	U. S. Currency 6's.....	114½ @ 117½

The Treasury programme for June does not include the purchase of any bonds.

In State bonds, Tennessees have been the most active; the transactions in them have been made at 63 to 64 ex interest. New York State Bounty Loan bonds have continued in demand, selling up to 110½, and closing to-day at 109½ bid.

Central Pacific first mortgages sold up to 93½ against 89, the lowest price reached during the recent German "scare." Union Pacifics are better, the first mortgages having advanced to 85½ from 85½, and the incomes to 82 from 80. The balance of the railroad bond list has exhibited no specially interesting features, prices remaining steady.

The gold market, notwithstanding the heavy shipments of specie during the week, has remained quiet, the quotations having been confined between the extremes of 112½ and 112½, and closing at 112½ on Friday. The total amount of specie shipped during the week was \$3,853,467, making the total amount shipped since January 1, \$22,627,972, against \$20,305,830 for the same period in 1873, and \$26,716,225 in 1872. The Treasury will sell \$5,000,000 gold during the present month.

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